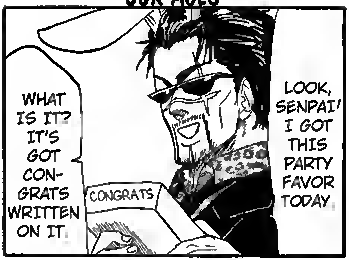
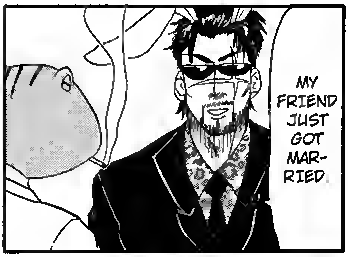
MangaBox

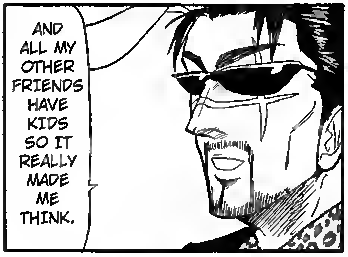
Translation by Melissa Goldberg
Adaptation by Alexandra Swanson
YKS SERVICE LLC/SKY JAPAN, Inc

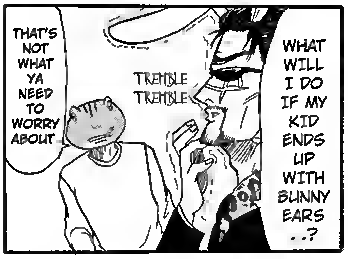
OLD MAN FROG

CHAPTER 21
THE OLD MAN'S PAST

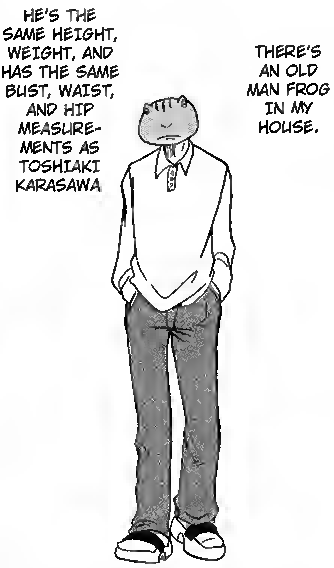






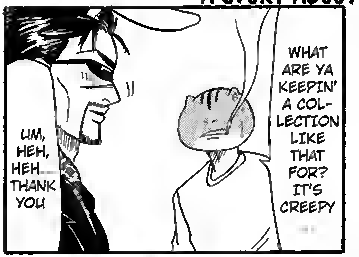


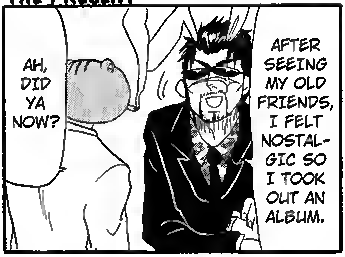
**TOSHIAKI KARASAWA IS A THEATER AND FILM ACTOR

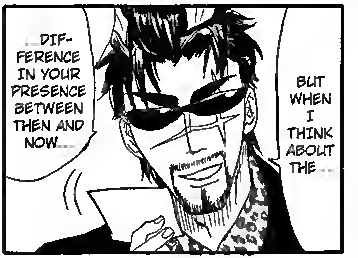

HE'S THE SAME HEIGHT, WEIGHT, AND HAS THE SAME BUST, WAIST, AND HIP MEASUREMENTS AS TOSHIAKI KARASAWA
THERE'S AN OLD MAN FROG IN MY HOUSE.

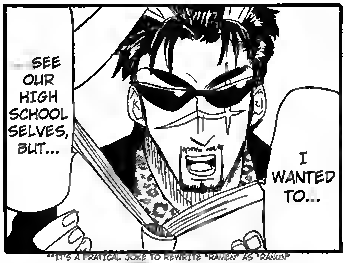
ZENYU SHIMABUKURO

A STORY ABOUT THE PRESENT



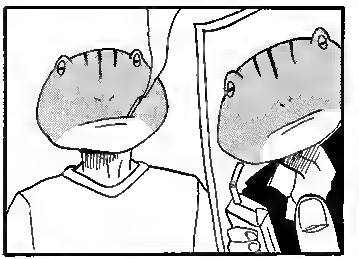


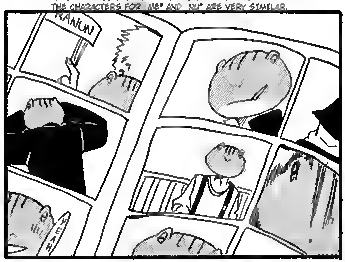


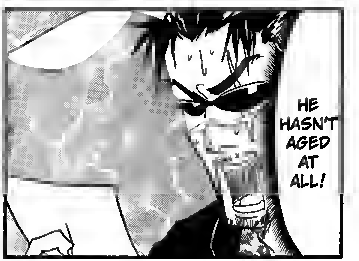


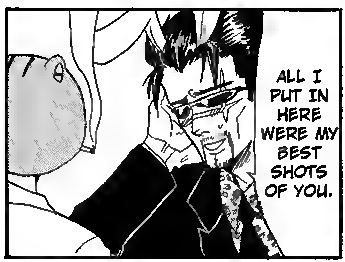
THIS STORY IS FICTIONAL AND COMPLETELY UNRELATED TO ANY REAL PEOPLE, GROUPS OR EVENTS.

"IT'S A PHYSICAL JOKE TO EXPRESS "HANDS" AS "KANUN" THE CHARACTERS FOR "HE" AND "HIM" ARE VERY SIMILAR.









CHARACTER INTRO! OLD MAN FROG... SINCE HE DOESN'T TYPICALLY GO OUTSIDE, HE DOESN'T GAMBLE.

A STORY ABOUT THE PAST

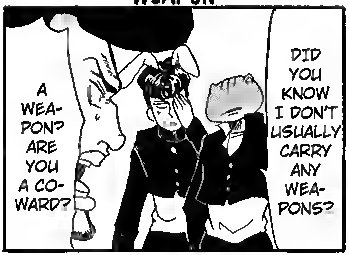
HMM?
WHAT IS THE MATTER?
SENPAI! I WILL FOLLOW YOU ANYWHERE!
WHAT'S GOIN' ON? THERE'S A CROWD, BUT I CAN'T SEE ANYTHIN'.
JUST LEAVE IT TO ME, SENPAI!
... USAKI ...
YES, SENPAI!
LOOKS LIKE AN ACCIDENT ...
IS THAT SO?
UNDERSTOOD, SENPAI!
THANKS
CAN YA .. NOT FOLLOW ME TO THE BATHROOM?

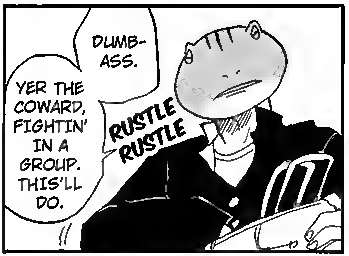
RYUZO USAKI... HE'S WORSHIPPED THE OLD MAN FOR MANY YEARS. HE RUNS A BENTO SHOP.

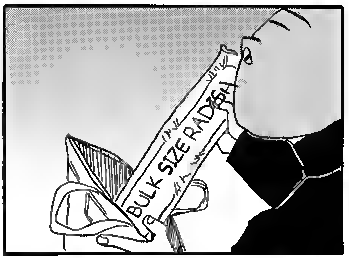
THOSE TWO IN THE PAST

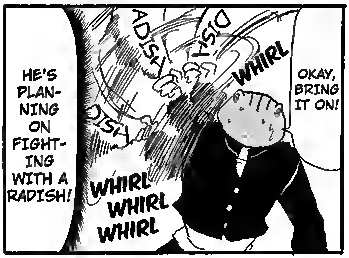
SENPAI... THEY'RE SAYING A GANG OF SENIORS ASKED YOU TO JOIN THEM
...OH, YAH?
WHISH
SNAP
WHY DO YOU ALWAYS TURN DOWN ALL THE IN-VITES YOU GET?
SOME SORT OF POLI-CY...?
IS GOD MES-SIN' WITH ME ...?
THAT WAS THE LAST ONE...
WELL... PEOPLE ONLY FLOCK TO A GROUP TO FAKE BEING STRONG ...
IT'S THE ANTI-THE-SIS... OF ME..
DON'T TAKE IT OUT ON ME.
HOW PETTY ...
I DON'T UNDER-STAND WHAT IT MEANS AT ALL!
THAT'S SO COOL...! I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT IT MEANS THOUGH ...!
BUT NOTH-ING ACTU-ALLY HAP-PEN-ED.
H-HE'S SO COOL ...!

WEAPON

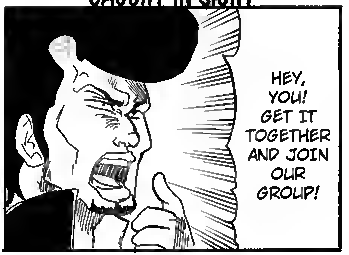


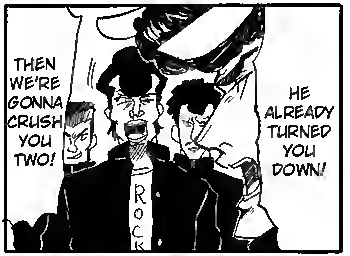


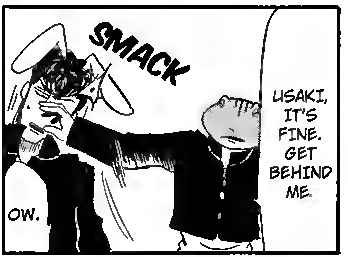




CAUGHT IN SIGHT







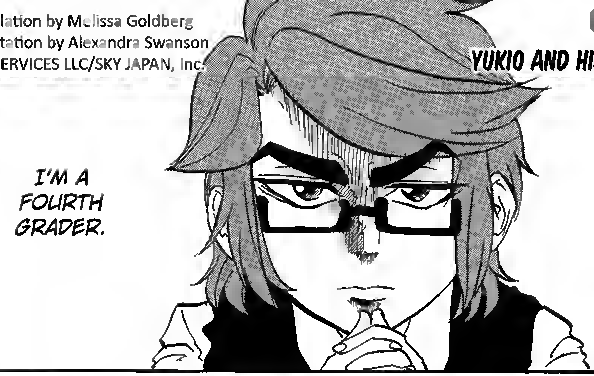
THOSE THINGS HAPPENED

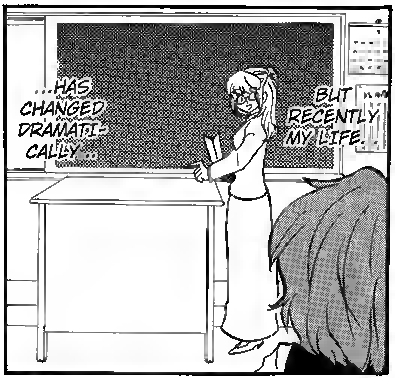
ENOUGH ...STOP. SERIOUSLY STOP.
IT'S SO YOU.
I MEAN, EATING THE RADISH YOU USED AS A WEAPON ...
UGH...
THE FOURTH
YOU WERE THERE THAT OTHER TIME! GET READY!
HUH? WHAT IS IT?
OH. THE TRUTH IS THERE'S SOMETHING I DIDN'T TELL YOU...
ガシ CLATTER!!
DAMN IT... I'M GONNA GET CREAMED AT THIS RATE...
THE BENTO I WOULD ALWAYS GIVE YOU AFTER YOU SENT ME TO BUY ONE FOR YOU...
S-SENPAI!!
USAKI...
STEP
I'M LATE... SORRY ABOUT THAT.
STEP
...I SEE.
I... MADE THOSE FOR YOU! MYSELF...
HE WAS EATING IT FOR DINNER ...
H—

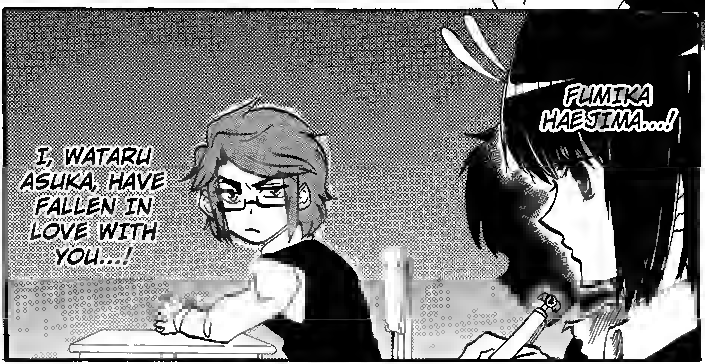
TO BE CONTINUED NEXT TIME.

Translation by Melissa Goldberg
Adaptation by Alexandra Swanson
YKS SERVICES LLC/SKY JAPAN, Inc.

MangaBox







WHEN SHE TRANSFERRED HERE A FEW MONTHS AGO...
I KNEW IT WAS FATE AT WORK!
OKAY, FUMIKA-SAN, YOU CAN SIT NEXT TO YUKIO-KUN.
OKAY. GOT IT.
SHE HAS WINGS ATTACHED TO HER BACK WHAT AN ODD YOUNG LADY.
STEP
STEP
WAFT
?!
SHE...
...SHE SMELLS AMAZING!
...I STILL HAVEN'T SPOKEN TO HER YET, THOUGH...
YES... WELL...

THIS STORY IS FICTIONAL, AND COMPLETELY UNRELATED TO ANY REAL PEOPLE, GROUPS, OR EVENTS

CHARACTER INTRO! YUKIO OHNO... THERE'S ONE MORE MAIN CHARACTER.

PLEASE FIND A PARTNER AND READ YOUR BOOKS WORKING WITH YOUR FRIENDS IS FINE.
CLAMMBON LAUGH!
JAPANESE
UM, OKAY, EVERY-ONE..
SO THIS IS MY CHANCE TO TALK TO HER.
BUT TODAY WE HAVE TO WORK IN PAIRS FOR THIS CLASS.
** "CLAMMBON LAUGHED" IS A QUOTE FROM "YAMANASHI" A STORY MOST GRADER SCHOOLERS READ IN JAPANESE CLASS
I WAS TOO LAAAAATE!
OH SURE.
YUKIO-KUN, DO YOU WANT TO WORK TOGE-THER?
THIS IS IT! IT'S NATURAL FOR ME TO TALK TO A NEARBY CLASS-MATE...
...WHEN WE'RE BREAKING UP INTO GROUPS!
RISE-UP
...I'M THE ONLY ONE WITHOUT PARTNER AGAIN...
BUT NOW...
IF THAT IS, IN FACT, THE TRUTH...
CHATTER CHATTER
IT'S UP TO ME TO RESCUE YOU!
YOU FIND MOVING TO BE TOO MUCH TROUBLE SO YOU JUST PICK THE STUDENT NEXT TO YOU?
FUMIKA HAEJIMA... ARE YOU THE APATHETIC TYPE?
COULD IT BE THAT AS A CHILD WHO WAS RAISED ABRO... AND CAME BACK TO HER HOME COUNTRY YOU HAVE BITTER MEMORIES OF BEING IN A LAND YOU'RE UNFAMILIAR WITH? "
NO, IT SEEMS LIKE YOU'RE ALMOST ALWAYS WITH YOUR SEATMATE, YUKIO OHNO!!
FUMIKA HAEJIMA...YUKIO LOVE!

GLARE
...AND I, WATARU ASUKA, WILL JUMP IN AND SAVE HER!
I'LL FIND CONCRETE PROOF THAT YOU'RE JUST USING FUMIKA HAEJIMA...
HMPH... YUKIO OHNO...
I'LL BE KEEPING A CLOSE EYE ON YOU...
...YUKIO OHNO!
AS I THOUGHT, IT'S UP TO ME TO PROTECT HER.
IT'S MY DUTY AS A MAN! MY SACRED DUTY!! IT'S NOT ABOUT MEDDLING
YOU'RE CALLED "QUEEN" BECAUSE YOU'RE KNOWN TO USE A WHIP AGAINST YOUR CLASSMATES...
HEY!
SOMEONE LIKE YOU ISN'T SUITED FOR A WELL-RAISED GIRL LIKE-FUMIKA HAEJIMA!
THEY'RE...
...SO LUCKY TO BE ABLE TO CHAT WITH HER!
SHAKE
SHAKE

IT'S HER.
..HANDKERCHIEF
REACH
?!
FUMIKA HAEJIMA DROPPED THIS!
AND NOW I MUST RETURN IT TO HER!
THIS GIVES ME A REASON TO TALK TO HER, DOESN'T IT?
I'M SURE SHE'D BE LOST WITHOUT HER HANDKERCHIEF!
OKAY, JUST HAND IT OVER. HAND IT OVER CASUALLY LIKE A GENTLEMAN.
THUTHUTHUTHUTH
ALL RIGHT, JUST GO AHEAD AND HAND HER THE HANDKERCHIEF.
I ENDED UP...
...TAKING IT HOME WITH MEEEEE!
JUST DO IT, WATARU ASUKA! NOOOOOW!
UUUUUUGH. JUST HAND IT OVEEEEER!
DING-DONG
BING-BONG

SOME DAY... YES, SOME DAY I'LL RETURN IT...
SCRIBBLE SCRIBBLE
SOME-HOW... I MUST RETURN IT TO HER SOME-DAY...!
BUT WHAT DO I DO AFTER THAT...?
CLICK CLACK
IN THE END, I MISSED MY CHANCE TO RETURN HER HAND-KERCHIEF FOR NOW, I'LL JUST IRON IT AND PUT IT IN A ZIPLOCK BAGGIE.
YOU DROPPED THIS, ASUKA-KUN.
HERE.
PICK UP
OH.
DROP
FUME
YUKIO OHNOOO!
HOW DARE HE? HOW DARE HE!
UM.
YOU GONNA TAKE IT BACK?
IS HE TRYING TO SAY THAT SHE'S ALREADY "BEYOND MY GRASP"?
TELLING ME THAT I "DROPPED" SOME-THING
DOES HE MEAN FUMIKA HAEJIMA?
DOES HE KNOW ABOUT MY FEELINGS FOR HER?
OH.
YEAH ...
WHAT, YUKIO OHNO? YOU THINK YOU CAN FOOL ME WITH THIS ACT? NO... WAIT...!

DO YOU WANT TO GO TO THE NURSE?
ARE YOU OKAY .? DO YOU FEEL SICK?
I MUST SAVE HER FROM THIS RASCAL WITHOUT DELAY!
DAMN IT... I'VE NEVER BEEN SO HUMILIATED. YUKIO OHNO, YOU LOUSE!
AH! ASUKA-KUN, ARE YOU OKAY?
...NG!
QUIVER QUIVER
THAT HAD TO HURT!
CAN'T YOU SEE THAT I'M TRYING TO STU—
STAB
I—
I'M JUST FINE!
OH, SURE, BUT NOW'S NOT THE TIME...
HUH?
HERE
YUKIO-KUN, I LOST THE HANDKERCHIEF YOU LENT ME SO I BOUGHT YOU A NEW ONE
WHAT REALLY HURTS IS MY HEART...
DON'T PATRONIZE ME!
I'M MAN ENOUGH TO HANDLE IT!

I'M PRETTY SURE SHE'S THE DAUGHTER OF A WEALTHY FAMILY. HMM?
AFTER BEING UP CLOSE TO FUMIKA HAEJIMA
SHE'S NOTHING LIKE ME. A KID WHO HAS TO DO CLEANING DUTY DURING THE DAY AND AFTER SCHOOL
SWEEP SWEEP
DAMN IT ALL. THE HANDKERCHIEF I WAS TO RETURN TO HER WAS YUKIO OHNO'S AND SHE HAD TO BUY HIM A NEW ONE
GYM CLOTHES
FUMIKA HAEJIMA
GYM CLOTHES
FUMIKA
I MUST RESIST... SOMEHOW I MUST RESIST...
HAA
HAA
WATARU ASUKA, NO PROGRESS MADE IN LOVE

TO BE CONTINUED NEXT TIME.

Translation by Melissa Goldberg
Adaptation by Alexandra Swanson
YKS SERVICES LLC/SKY JAPAN, Inc.

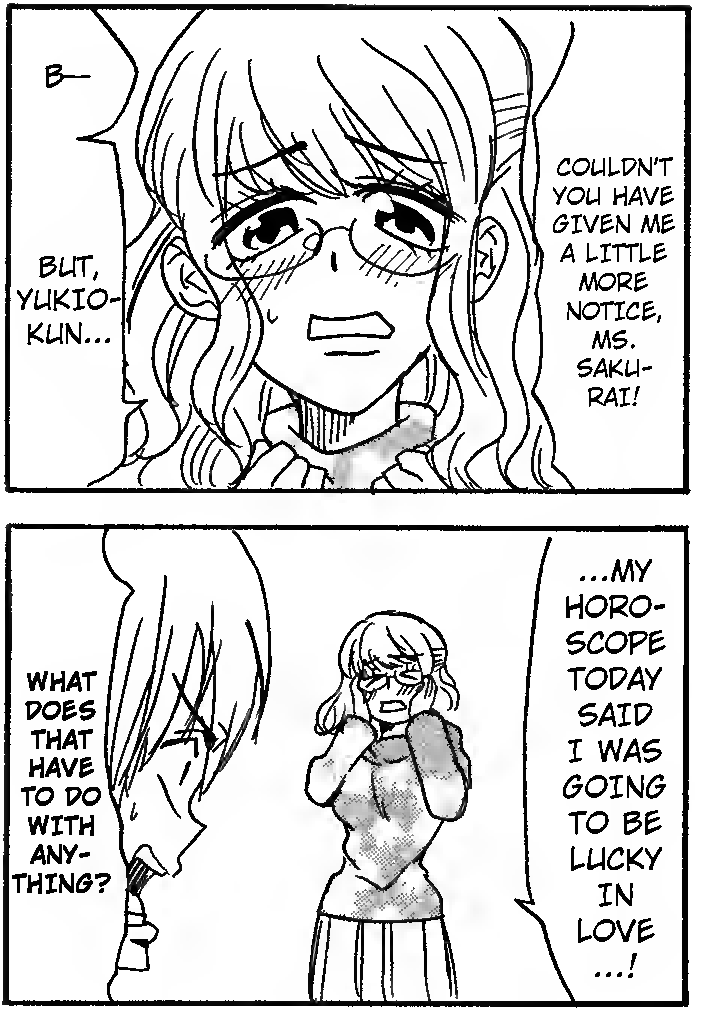
MangaBox

CHAPTER 23
THE OLD MAN AND THE HOME VISIT

ZENYU SHIMABUKURO

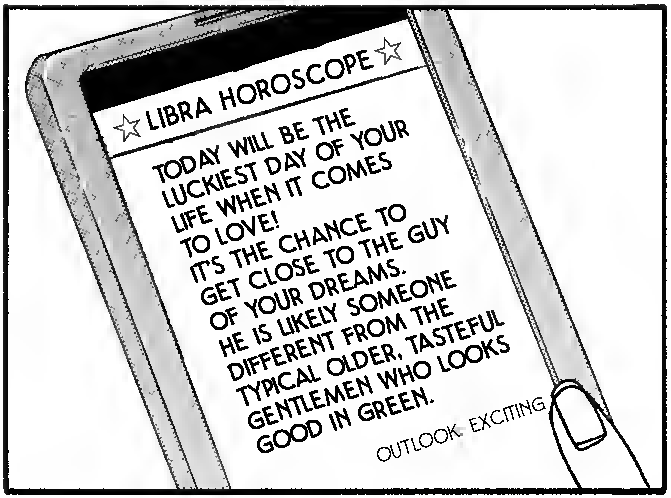
HOME VISIT

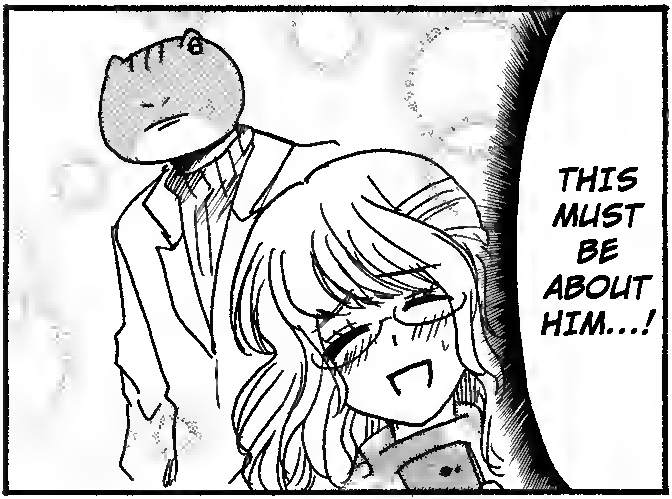
THIS STORY IS FICTIONAL AND COMPLETELY UNRELATED TO ANY REAL PEOPLE, GROUPS, OR EVENTS


B—
BUT, YUKIO-KUN...
COULDN'T YOU HAVE GIVEN ME A LITTLE MORE NOTICE, MS. SAKU-RAI!
...MY HORO-SCOPE TODAY SAID I WAS GOING TO BE LUCKY IN LOVE ...!
WHAT DOES THAT HAVE TO DO WITH ANY-THING?

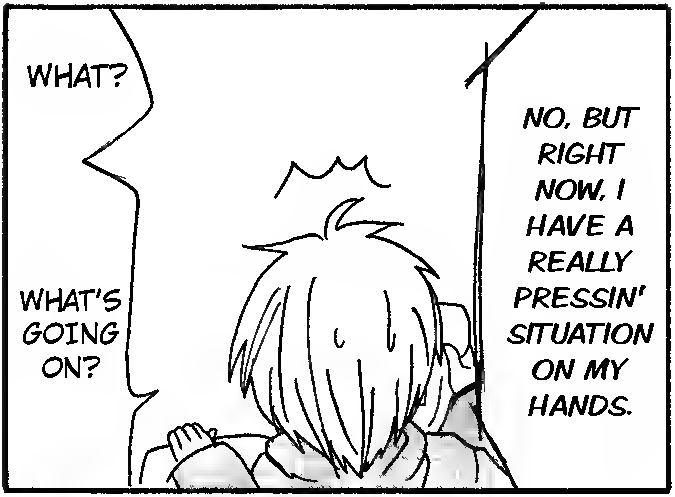
HOROSCOPE

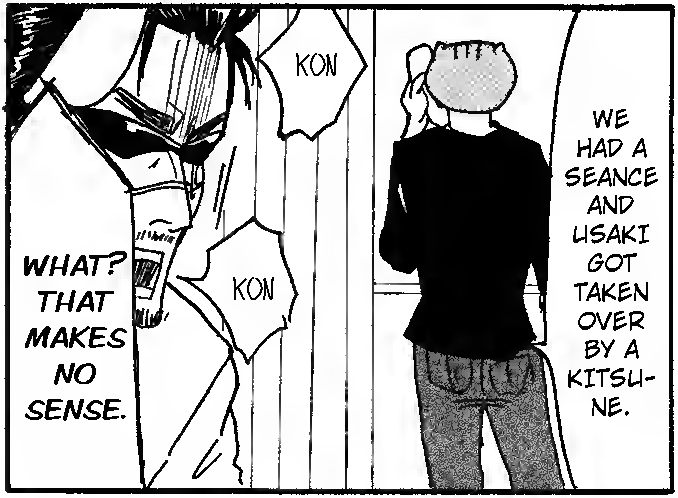
I'LL CALL HOME QUICK AND ASK!
OH! YOU WILL?
I WAS A BIT PUSHY... BUT IF I WASN'T, THEN I WOULDN'T GET TO SEE FROG-SAN...
BE-SIDES, LOOK AT MY HORO-SCOPE.


☆LIBRA HOROSCOPE☆
TODAY WILL BE THE LUCKIEST DAY OF YOUR LIFE WHEN IT COMES TO LOVE!
IT'S THE CHANCE TO GET CLOSE TO THE GUY OF YOUR DREAMS.
HE IS LIKELY SOMEONE DIFFERENT FROM THE TYPICAL OLDER, TASTEFUL GENTLEMEN WHO LOOKS GOOD IN GREEN.
OUTLOOK: EXCITING


THIS MUST BE ABOUT HIM...!

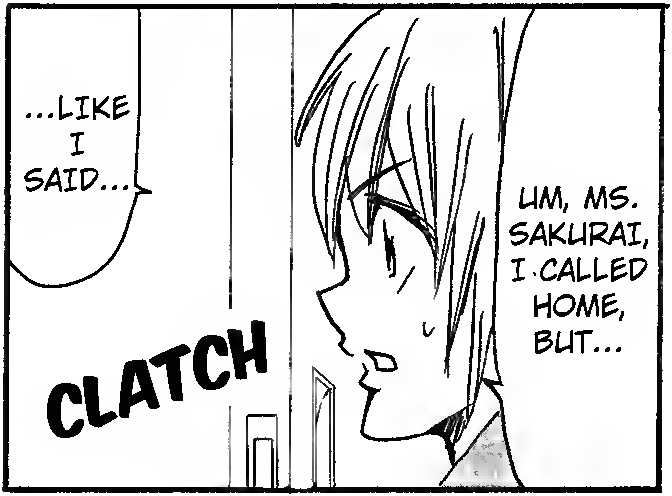
IN A ROUGH SPOT





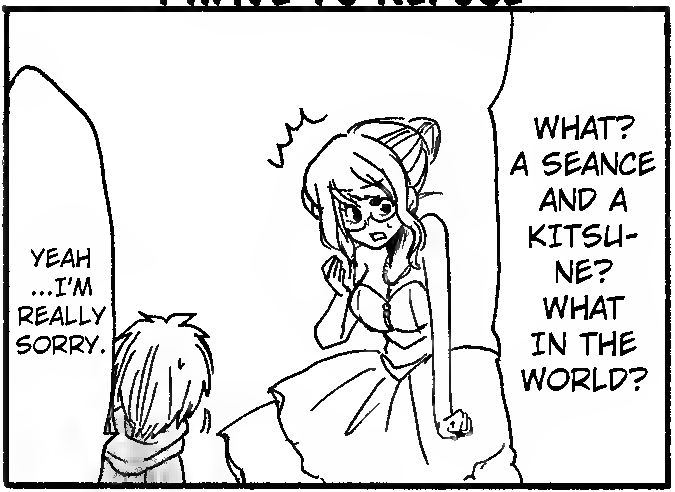
**IN JAPANESE FOLKLORE KITSUNE (FOXES) ARE TRICKSTER SPIRITS.
**KON IS THE NOISE FOXES MAKES IN JAPANESE

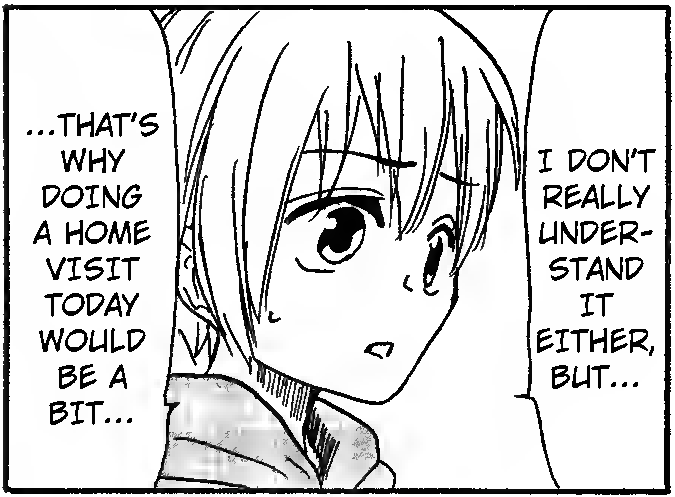
THE TEACHER'S GLAM LOOK

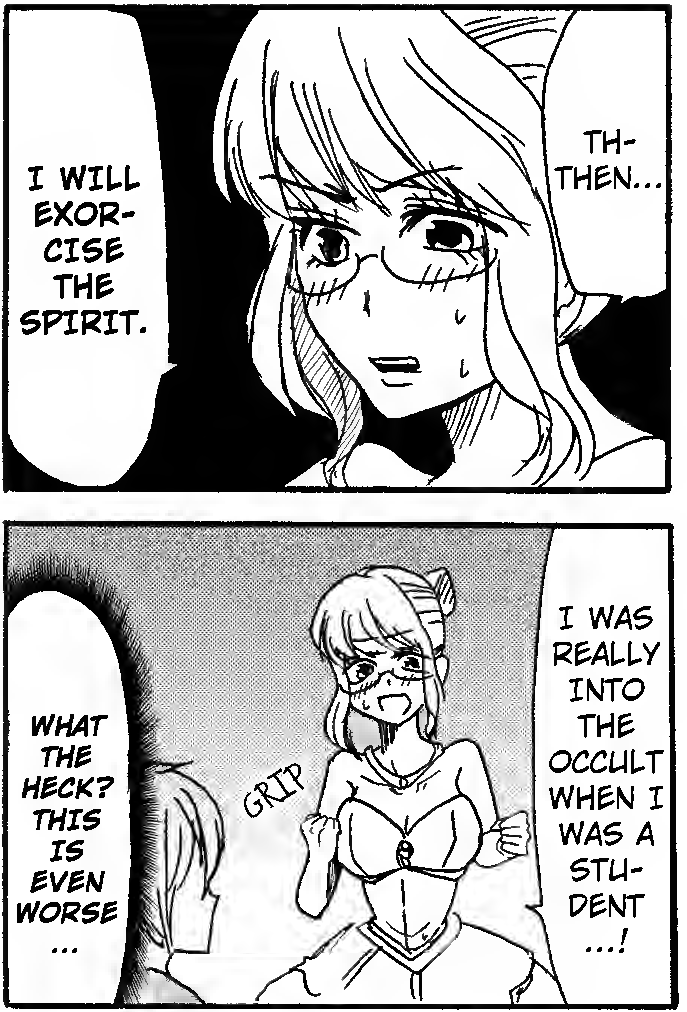


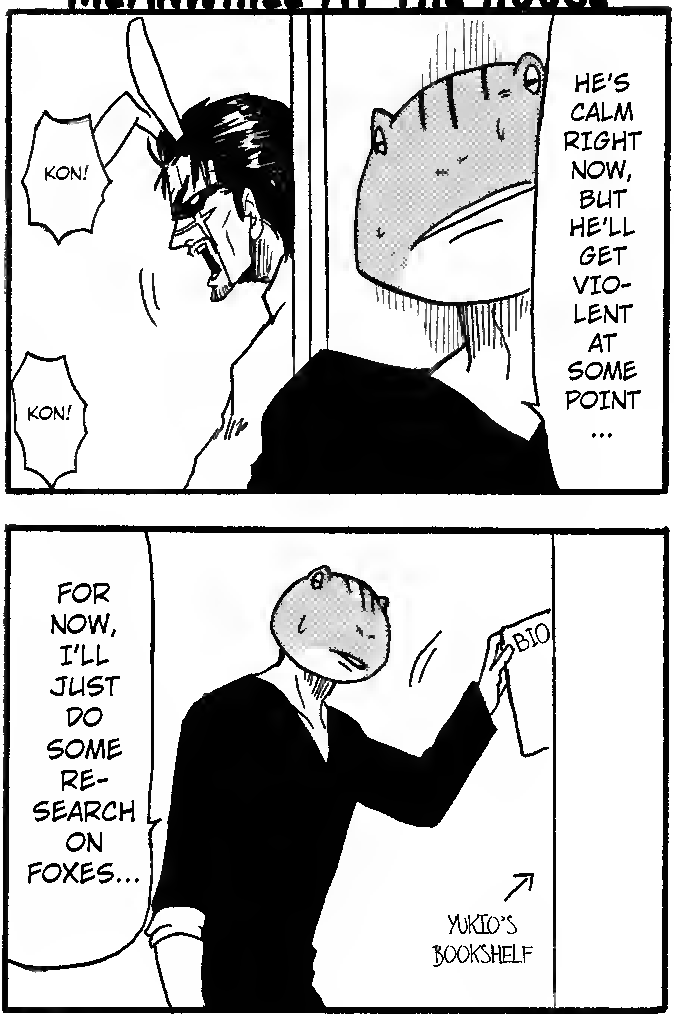
I'M READY AND RARING TO GO!

I HAVE TO REFUSE

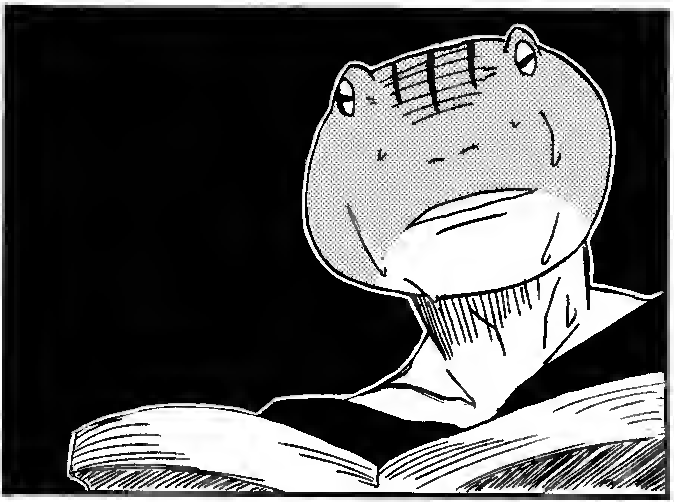


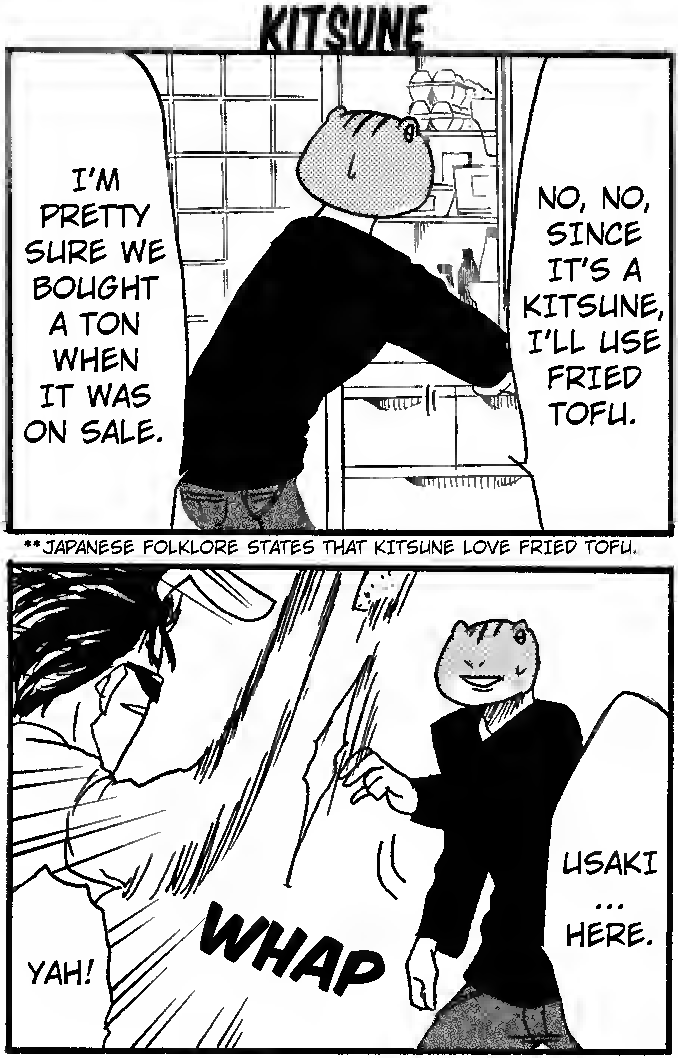


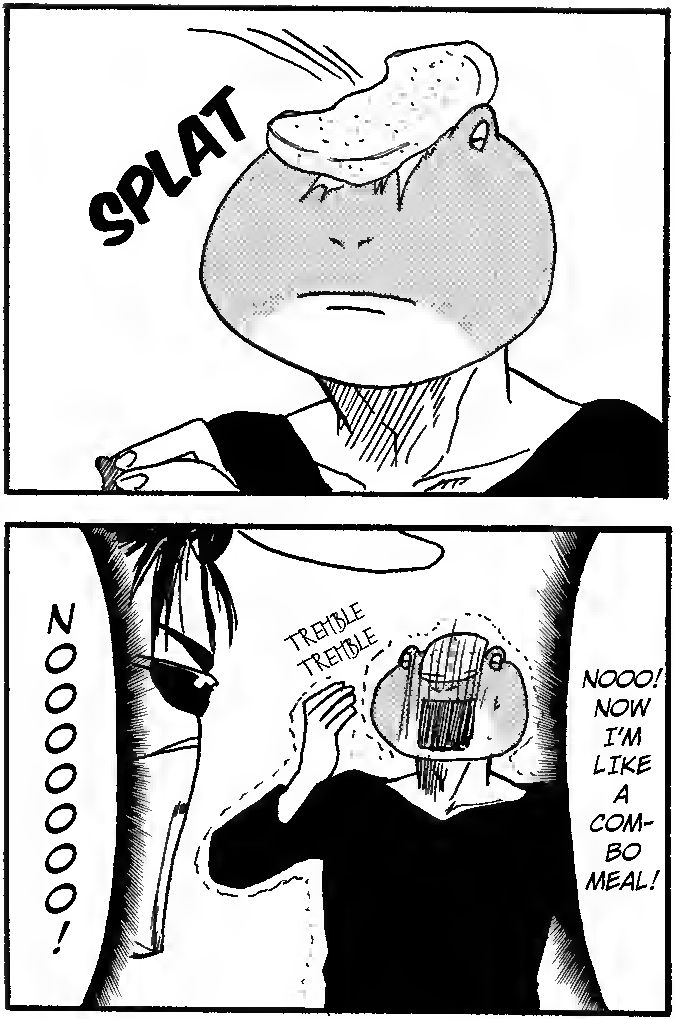

TH-THEN...
I WILL EXOR-CISE THE SPIRIT.
I WAS REALLY INTO THE OCCULT WHEN I WAS A STU-DENT ...!
GRIP
WHAT THE HECK? THIS IS EVEN WORSE ...


MEANWHILE AT THE HOUSE
KON!
KON!
HE'S CALM RIGHT NOW, BUT HE'LL GET VIO-LENT AT SOME POINT ...
FOR NOW, I'LL JUST DO SOME RE-SEARCH ON FOXES...
BIO
YUKIO'S BOOKSHELF

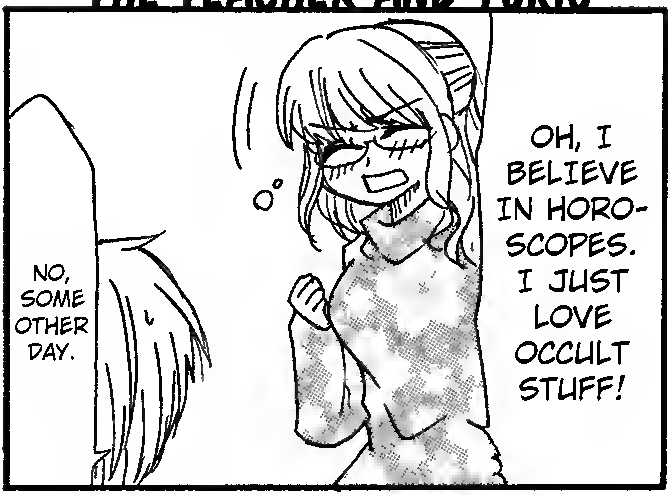
FOX LIFESTLE
FOXES MAINLY EAT SMALL ANIMALS SUCH AS RATS AND FROGS.

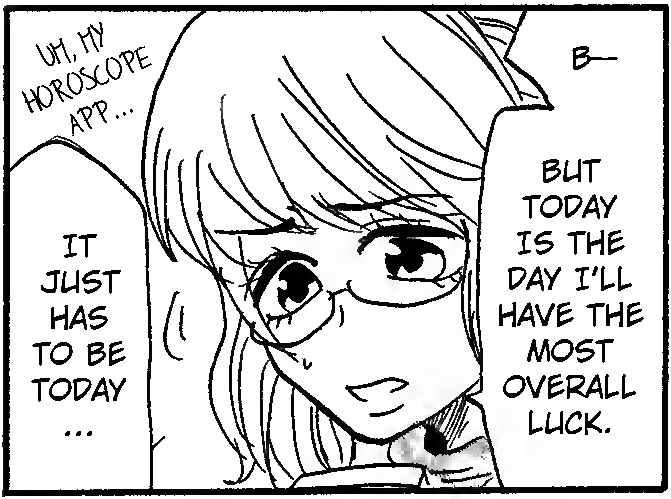


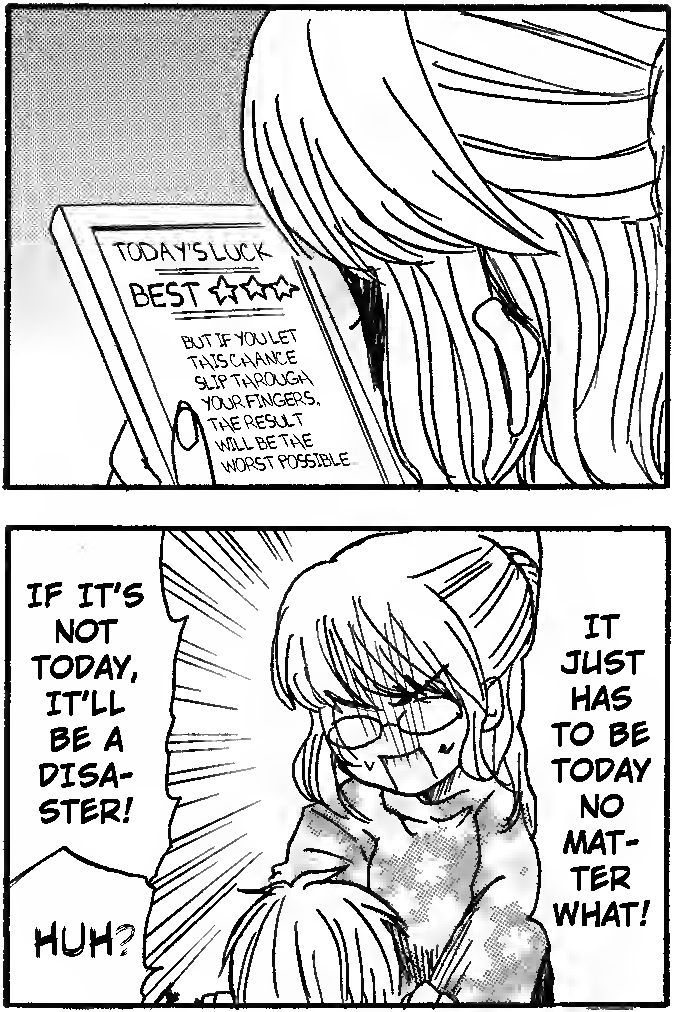

KITSUNE
I'M PRETTY SURE WE BOUGHT A TON WHEN IT WAS ON SALE.
NO, NO, SINCE IT'S A KITSUNE, I'LL USE FRIED TOFU.
**JAPANESE FOLKLORE STATES THAT KITSUNE LOVE FRIED TOFU.
YAH!
WHAP
USAKI ... HERE.


SPLAT
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
NOOO! NOW I'M LIKE A COM-BO MEAL!
NOOOOOOO!

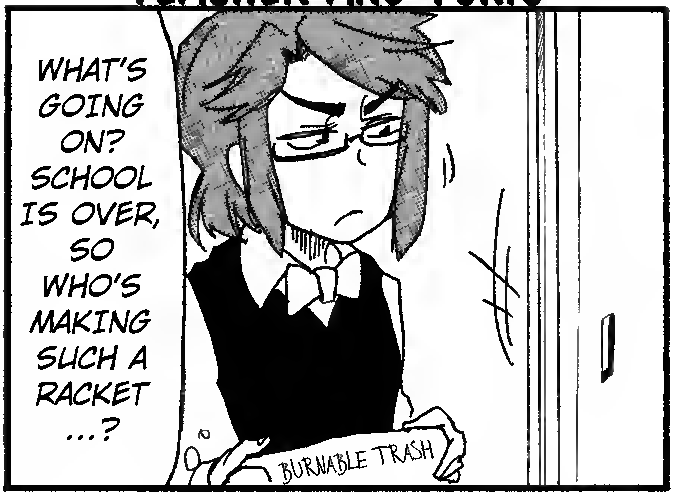
THE TEACHER AND YUKIO

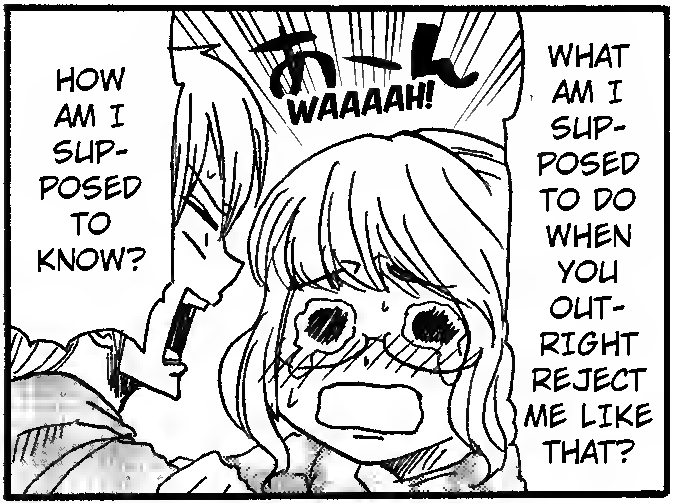


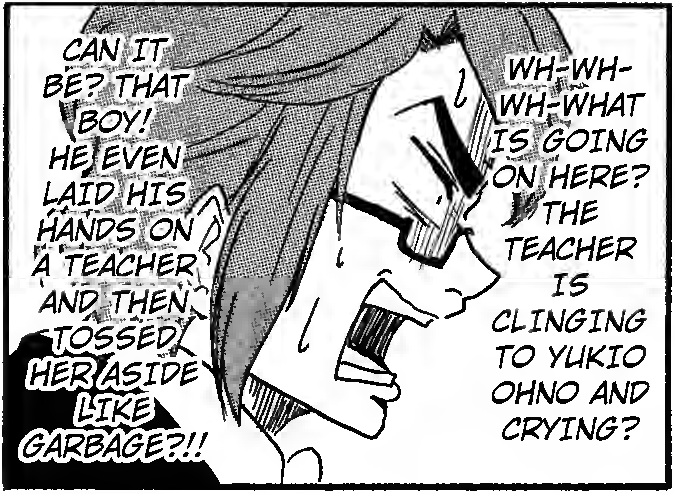



TODAY'S LUCK
BEST ☆☆☆
BUT IF YOU LET THIS CHANCE SLIP THROUGH YOUR FINGERS, THE RESULT WILL BE THE WORST POSSIBLE
IF IT'S NOT TODAY, IT'LL BE A DISA-STER!
HUH?
IT JUST HAS TO BE TODAY NO MAT-TER WHAT!

THE ARGUMENTATIVE TEACHER AND YUKIO

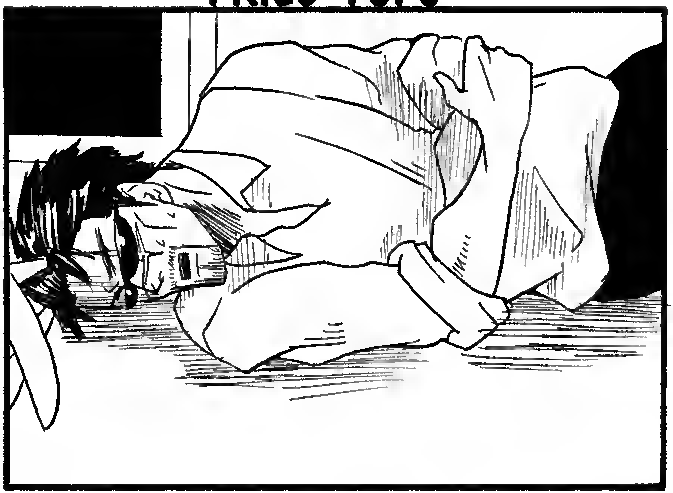


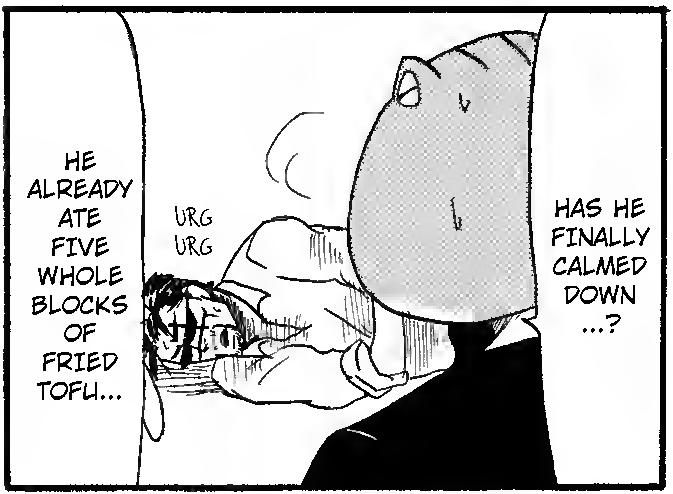


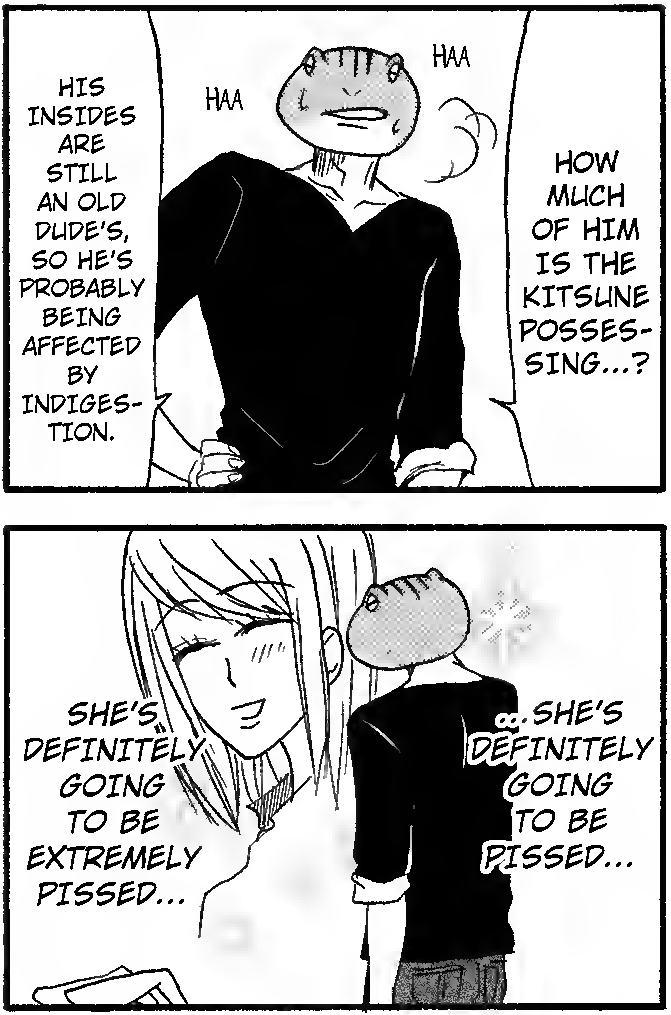

CAN IT BE? THAT BOY! HE EVEN LAID HIS HANDS ON A TEACHER AND THEN TOSSED HER ASIDE LIKE GARBAGE?!!
WH-WH-WH-WHAT IS GOING ON HERE? THE TEACHER IS CLINGING TO YUKIO OHNO AND CRYING?

YOU'RE A MONSTER, YUKIO OHNO!
WHAT A TOTAL SCOUN-DREL!
SHAKE SHAKE
WAAAAAH!

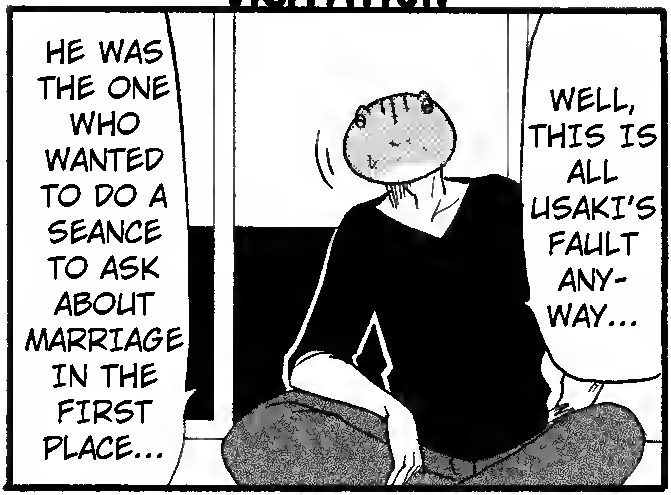
FRIED TOFU

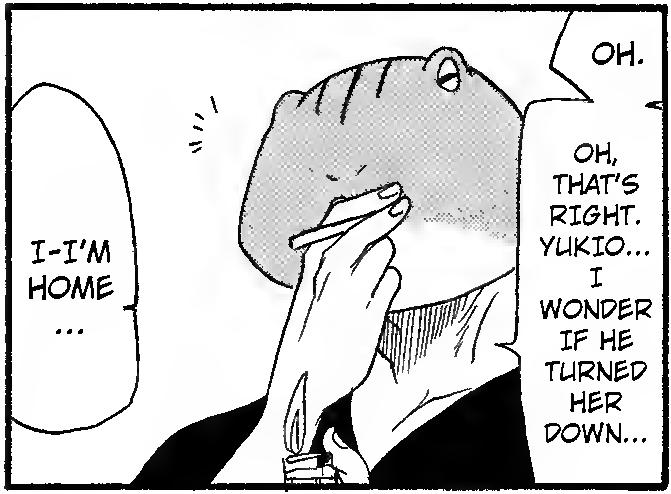


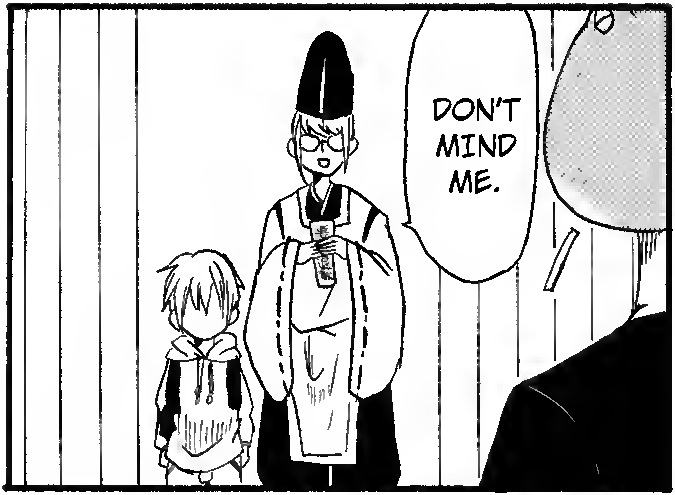

HE ALREADY ATE FIVE WHOLE BLOCKS OF FRIED TOFU...
URG URG
HAS HE FINALLY CALMED DOWN ...?


HIS INSIDES ARE STILL AN OLD DUDE'S, SO HE'S PROBABLY BEING AFFECTED BY INDIGES-TION.
HAA
HAA
HOW MUCH OF HIM IS THE KITSUNE POSSES-SING...?
SHE'S DEFINITELY GOING TO BE EXTREMELY PISSED...
...SHE'S DEFINITELY GOING TO BE PISSED...

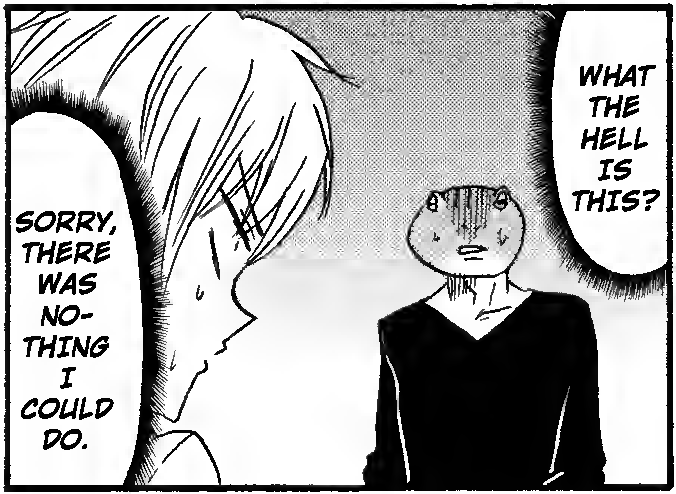
VISITATION


HE WAS THE ONE WHO WANTED TO DO A SEANCE TO ASK ABOUT MARRIAGE IN THE FIRST PLACE...
WELL, THIS IS ALL USAKI'S FAULT ANY-WAY...


I-I'M HOME ...
OH.
OH, THAT'S RIGHT. YUKIO... I WONDER IF HE TURNED HER DOWN...

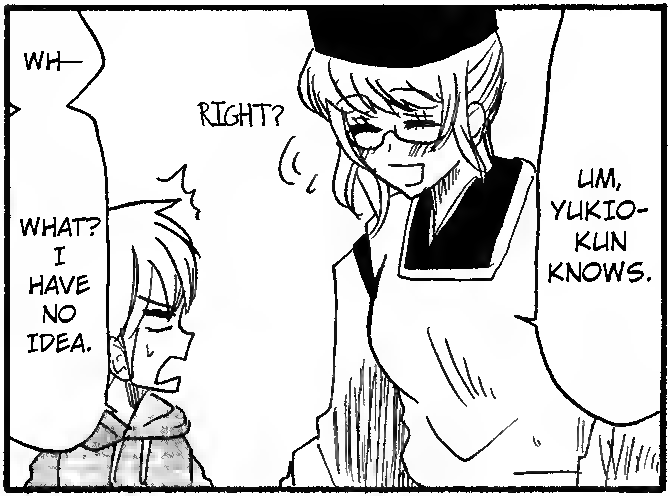


**THE PAPER IN HER HAND SAYS "AKURYO TAISAN" WHICH BASICALLY MEANS "EVIL SPIRITS BEGONE!"

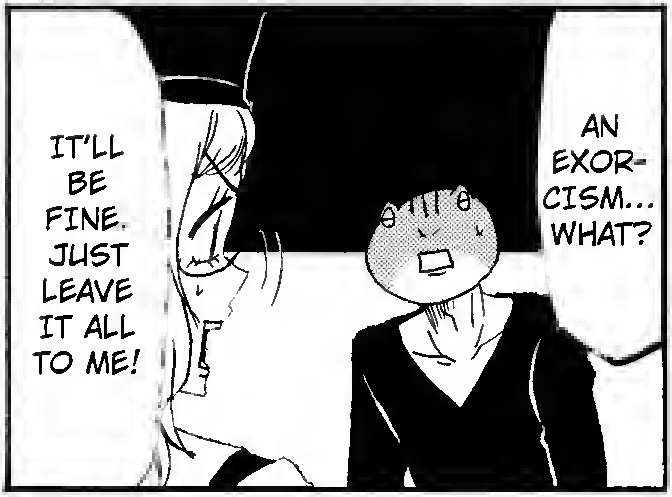


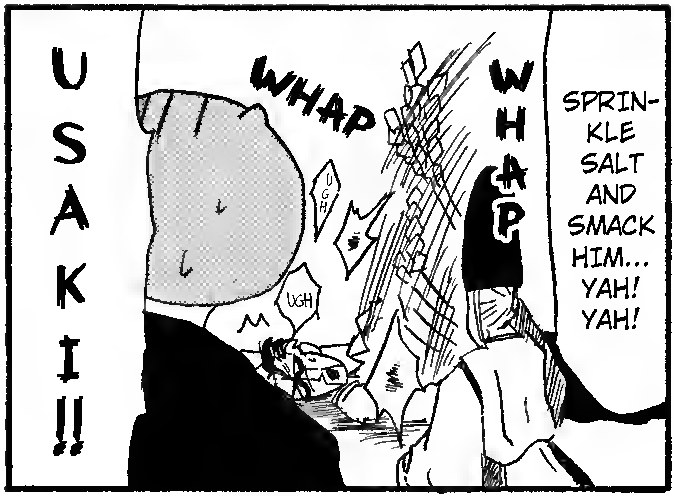
EXORCISM

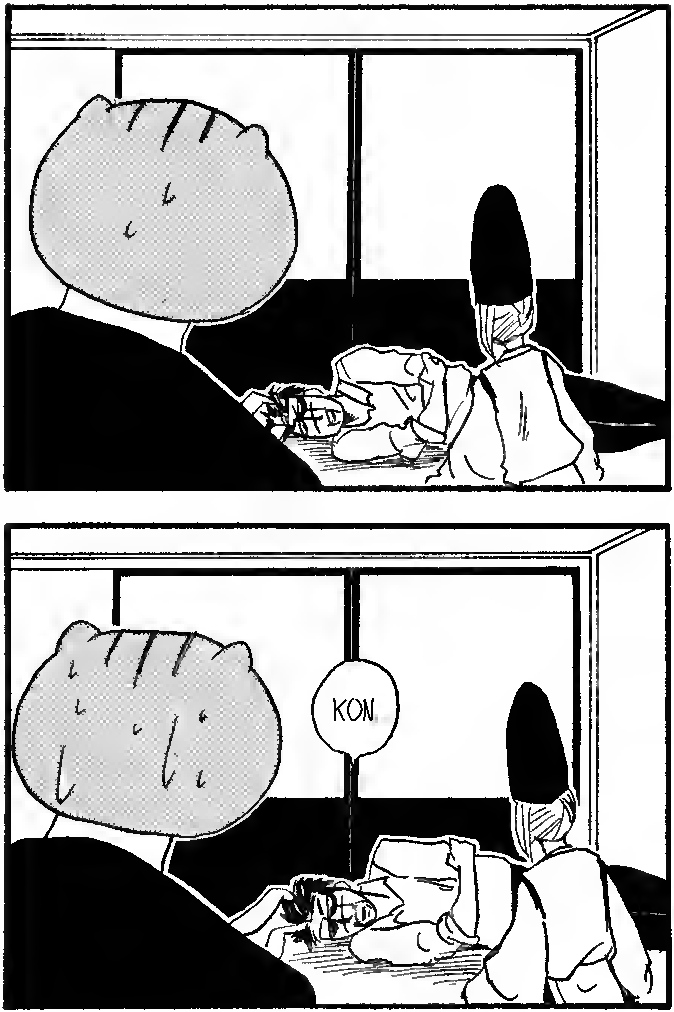
UM.
SAKURAI-SENSEI ...? WHAT ARE YA DOIN' HERE?
HUH? OH.
HELLO.

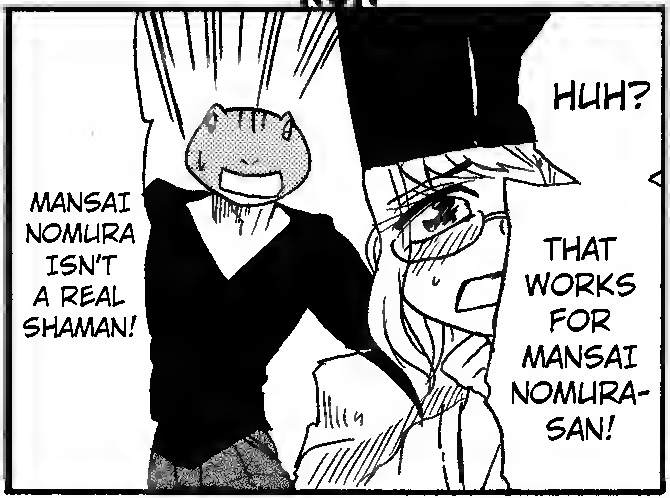

UM, YUKIO-KUN KNOWS.
RIGHT?
WH—
WHAT? I HAVE NO IDEA.

A-ARE YA HERE FOR THE HOME VISIT?
UM...
FOR THE EXOR-CISM.
EXOR-CISM ?!

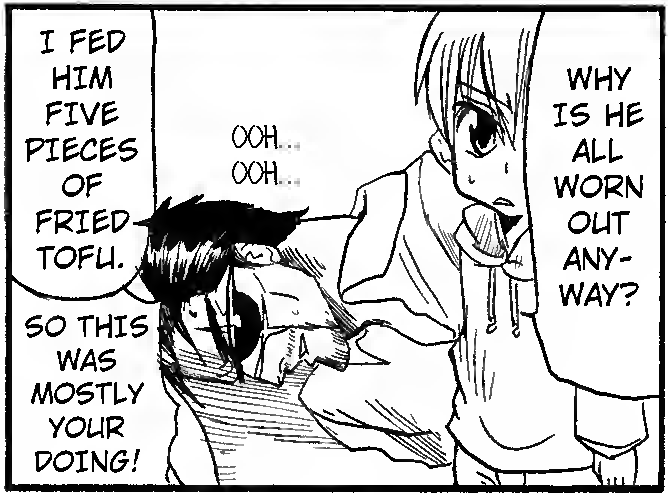

AN EXOR-CISM... WHAT?
IT'LL BE FINE. JUST LEAVE IT ALL TO ME!


SPRIN-KLE SALT AND SMACK HIM... YAH! YAH!
WHAP
WHAP
UGH
UGH
USAKI!!


KON



**MANSAI NOMURA IS AN ACTOR WHO PLAYED A SHAMAN IN THE ONMYOJI MOVIE SERIES.



U-USAKI? COULD IT BE THAT HE'S COME BACK TO US...?
UGH...
OOH...
KONPAI...

EVIL SPIRIT

THE REAL USAKI-SAN MUST BE INSIDE FIGHTING AGAINST THE EVIL SPIRIT.
WHAT ARE YOU TALK-ING ABOUT?
THEN THE ONLY THIN' WE CAN DO IS WAIT AND HOPE HE DEFEATS THE EVIL SPIRIT!
WHAT ARE YOU TALK-ING ABOUT?

TO BE CONTINUED NEXT TIME.

Translation by Melissa Goldberg
Adaptation by Alexandra Swanson
YKS SERVICES LLC/SKY JAPAN, Inc.

MangaBox

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

...

**KARUTA IS A KIDS' GAME WHERE PLAYERS COMPETE TO FIND AND SLAP A CARD THAT STARTS WITH THE SAME LETTERS AS THE CLUE GIVEN BEFORE THE OTHER PLAYERS

...KARUTA.

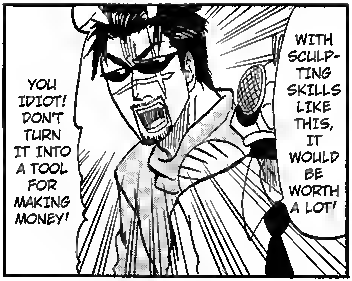
MAITREYA BUDDHA...

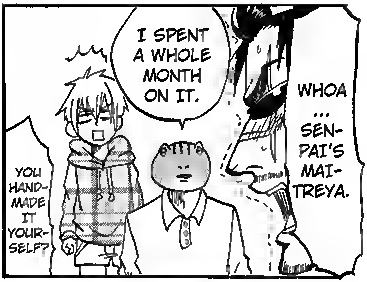
NAH, SEE, THE CHAMPION GETS A PRIZE!

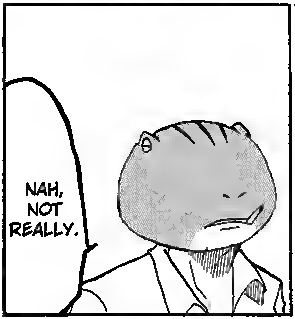
YOU THREE ARE SUCH RESPONSIBLE ADULTS ...

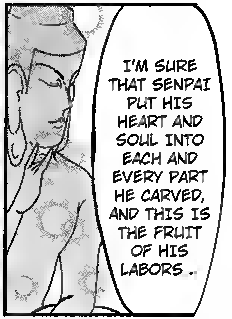
NISE

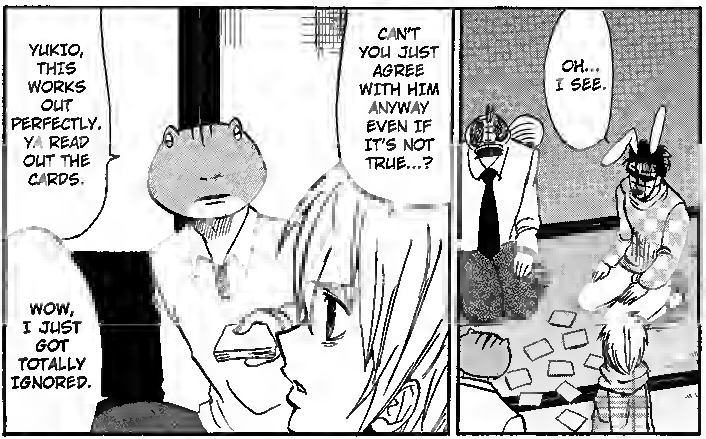
***MAITREYA BUDDHA IS CONSIDERED TO BE THE FUTURE BUDDHA WHO WILL COME TO EARTH, ACHIEVE ENLIGHTENMENT, AND TEACH THE PURE DHARMA.










YUKIO, THIS WORKS OUT PERFECTLY. YA READ OUT THE CARDS.
CAN'T YOU JUST AGREE WITH HIM ANYWAY EVEN IF IT'S NOT TRUE...?
WOW, I JUST GOT TOTALLY IGNORED.
OH... I SEE.

THIS STORY IS FICTIONAL AND COMPLETELY UNRELATED TO ANY REAL PEOPLE GROUPS OR EVENTS

WHY ME?
UGH, GEEZ.
FROM THREE TO FOUR!
IT'S A TAX HIKE.
IF I WIN, I GET THREE.. NAH, FOUR CARTONS OF CIGS
WHAT THE HECK IS THIS?
A
THROUGHOUT THOSE TWO YEARS, MOSQUITOES KEPT BITING THE BACKS OF THEIR LEGS
OLD MAN... THIS IS...
YAH ... IT'S AN ORI-GI-NAL ONE
IT'S THE ONLY ONE OF IT'S KIND IN THE WHOLE WORLD..
YOU HAVE TOO MUCH FREE TIME!
OH.
YOU MIGHT HAVE TO SAY A FEW KINDA EMBARRASSING THINGS, BUT DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
WHAT?! WHAT IS WRITTEN ON THESE CARDS?

LET'S DO THIS ALREADY. I LOVE KARUTA.
I'M GOING ALL OUT.
OH, YOU'RE RARING TO GO.
OKAY, YUKIO-KUN, PLEASE READ THE CLUE!
OKAY...
"SADDLED WITH THE PUNISHMENT OF DEATH BY A THOUSAND CUTS."
WA-BAM
F SHHHH
PICK UP
I TOLD YOU, DIDN'T I...?
I'M... GOING ALL OUT.

I AIN'T GONNA LOSE! BOC-CHAN, THE NEXT ONE!
OH OKAY
...IS CAPABLE OF.
WHAT? THEY HAVE A WORLD TOURNA-MENT?
I'M GOING TO SHOW YOU WHAT THE JUNIOR KARUTA WORLD TOURNA-MENT CHAMP-ION
...HUH?
YES! I GOT IT!
THIS ONE!
BAM
"SH-SHIFT-ING AROUND LATE AT NIGHT IS WHAT UCCHAN DOES."
**UCCHAN IS THE NICKNAME OF JAPANESE COMEDIAN TERUYOSHI UCHIMURA.
YOU MIXED UP UCCHAN WITH JACKIE CHAN.
YOUR AGE WORKED AGAINST YOU.
HOLD UP
TOO BAD, USAGI-SAN. UCCHAN IS THIS ONE...
THIS ONE IS JACKIE CHAN!
URG.
THEY LOOK SIMILAR FROM FAR AWAY, BUT UP CLOSE, THEY'RE OBVIOUSLY DIFFERENT! DAMMIT!

NOOOOOOO!
...AS A PENALTY, I'M REVEALING YOUR SOCIAL MEDIA USERNAME.
OKAY, USAKI, YOU TOUCHED THE WRONG CARD. SINCE YOU DID THAT...
BUNNY_EAR_DADDY
YUKIO-KUN, THE NEXT ONE!
...OKAY.
HEH HEH HEH
OKAY, I'VE GOT TWO CARDS ALREADY.
PLEASE STOP, SEN-PAI. JUST STOP...
YOU HAVE A LOT OF FOL-LOW-ERS.
AND ALL YOU TALK ABOUT IS LOVE AND RELATION-SHIPS.
WHISPER WHISPER
HEY, YUKIO...
HM...
"OH, PLEASE DON'T WASH MY LAUNDRY AND...
"...MY FATHER'S LAUNDRY TO-GETHER."
YOU SURE?
CAN YOU READ THESE?
YAH.

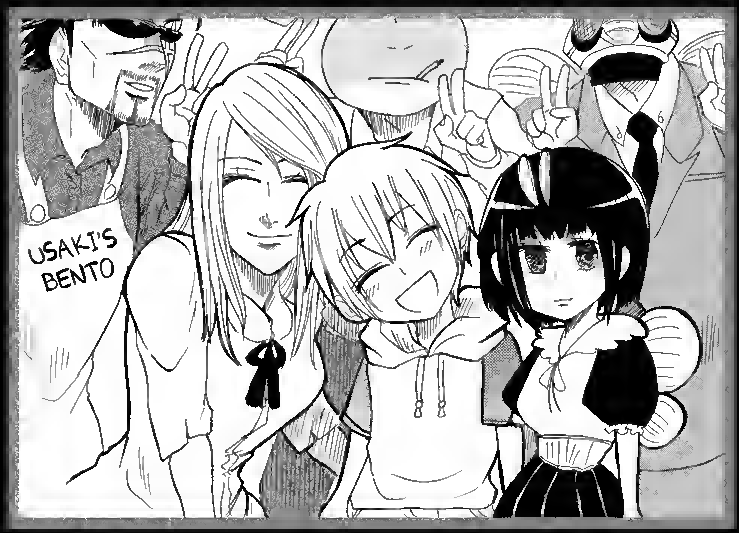
UM. THE WAY YOU READ IT JUST NOW WAS...
I DID IT! I GOT ONE!
I GOT "O"!
OKAY, NEXT ONE.
THERE IT IS!
JOLT
...HUH...?
BAM
"HEY, DON'T COME IN MY ROOM."
WHA?
WAH!
"TOLD MY FRIENDS I WAS EMBARRASSED TO HAVE THEM SEE MY DAD."
WHA?
HEY!
"KEEP AWAY FROM ME. YOU SMELL BAD."
SPURT
GACK!
IT'S NOT FAIR!
HEY, WHAT'S GOING ON? THOSE WEREN'T WRITTEN BEFOREHAND!
WHEEZE
WHEEZE
NO, THEY WERE.
THE OLD MAN G. VE ME THE "ANTI-HAE-JIMA" KARUTA DECK.
ARE YOU TRYING TO KILL ME?!

WAAAH
YOU'RE SO MEAN, FROG-SAN. YOU'RE SUCH A COWARD! USING EMO-TIONAL WAR-FARE!
I HAVE TO LOOK OUT FOR MY CUTE KOU-HAI.
AND...
...TO BE HONEST, YOUR COCKY ATTITUDE PISSED ME OFF.
WHAT A JERK!
**KOUHAI IS THE OPPOSITE OF SENPAI, I.E. UNDERCLASSMEN OR JUNIOR
"LET'S NOT EAT MEALS TO-GETHER ANY-MORE."
S-STOP IT!
I WAS TOLD THAT BE-FORE!
I WAS TOLD THAT JUST THIS MORN-ING!
WAAAH!
I'VE HAD IT! I'M LEAV-ING!
DASH
I'M GO-ING HOME!
DON'T YOU FEEL KINDA BAD FOR HIM?
YAH.
DID SOME-ONE REALLY SAY THOSE THINGS TO HIM?
I'LL GO APOLO-GIZE LATER..
HERE, THERE I TRY TO GET ALONG BUT NO LUCK FOLLOWS ME EVERYWHERE
TO BE CONTINUED!

ZENYU SHIMABUKURO

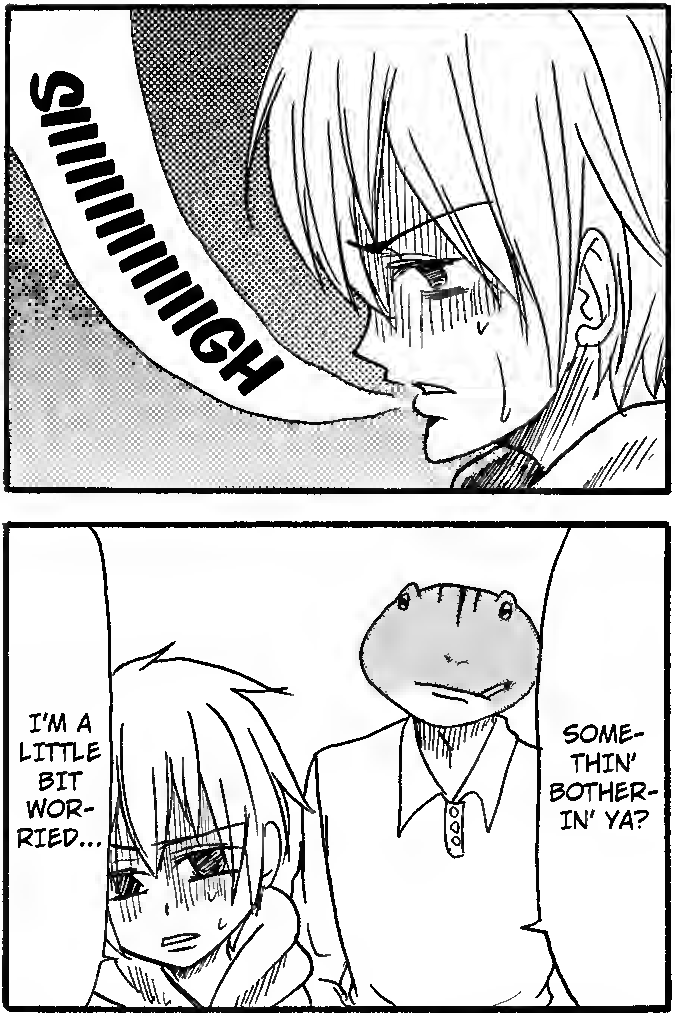
MangaBox

OLD MAN FROG

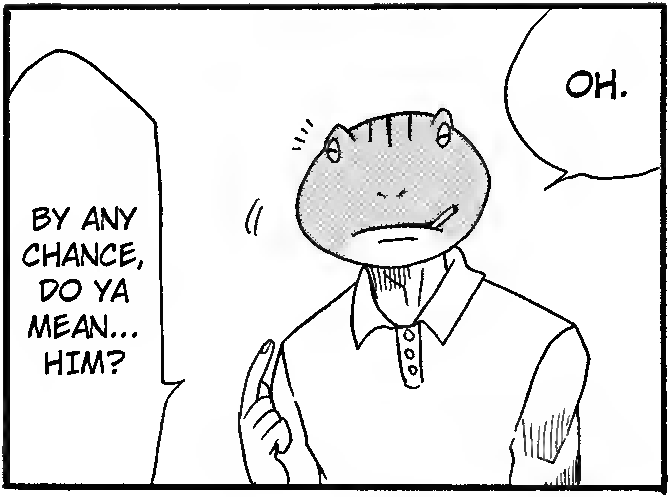


CHAPTER 25
THE OLD MAN AND ME AND THE PLAY

Translation by Melissa Goldberg
Adaptation by Alexandra Swanson
YKS SERVICES LLC/SKY JAPAN, Inc.



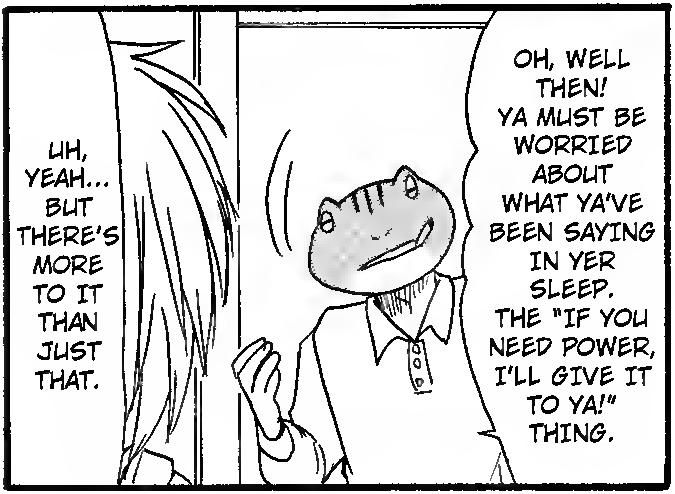
THIS STORY IS FICTIONAL, AND COMPLETELY UNRELATED TO ANY REAL PEOPLE, GROUPS, OR EVENTS.

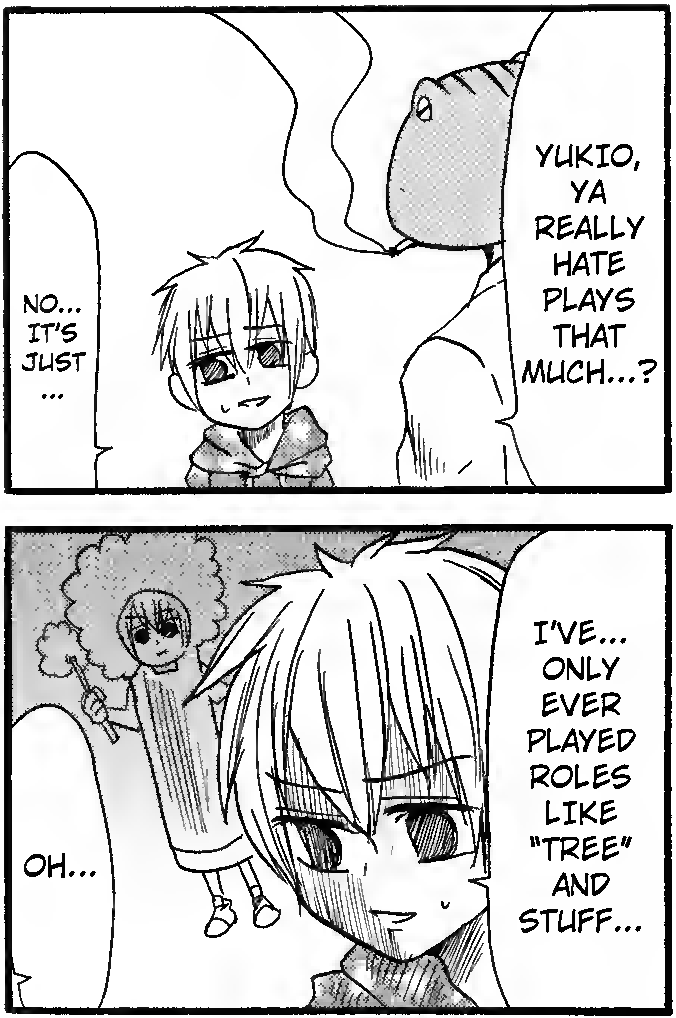

BY ANY CHANCE, DO YA MEAN... HIM?
OH.

HUH? THAT'S NEWS TO ME...
THE GUY YOU TALK ABOUT IN YER SLEEP. YA SAY, "HE WAS A NINJA IN HIS PAST LIFE."

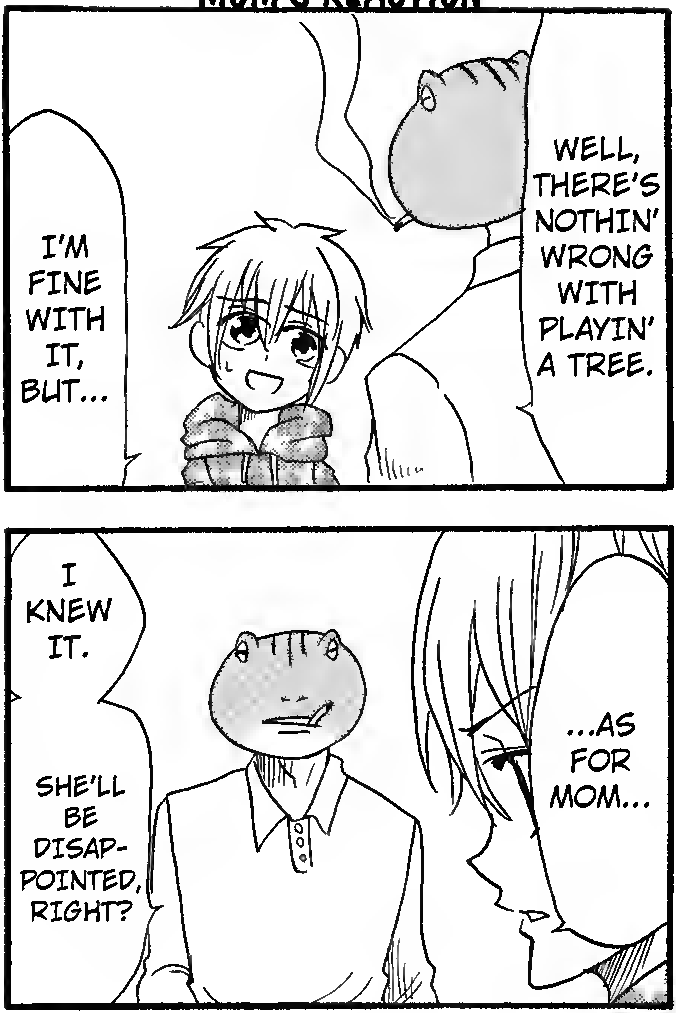
THE ROLE

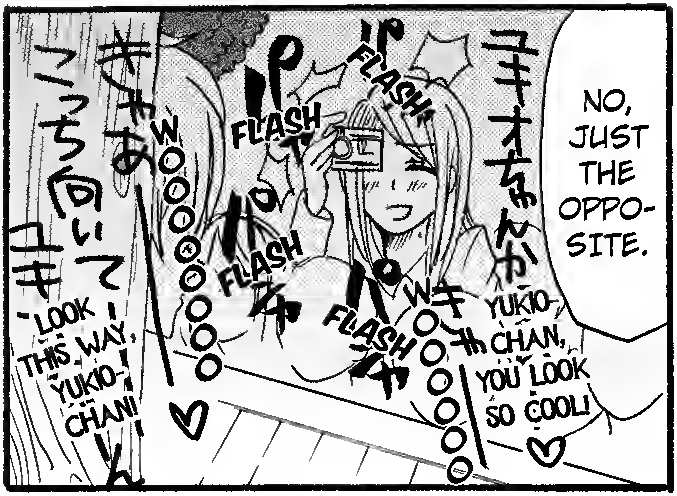
FOR OUR CLASS PRESENTATION...
...WE ENDED UP DECIDING TO DO A PLAY...


OH, WELL THEN! YA MUST BE WORRIED ABOUT WHAT YA'VE BEEN SAYING IN YER SLEEP. THE "IF YOU NEED POWER, I'LL GIVE IT TO YA!" THING.
UH, YEAH... BUT THERE'S MORE TO IT THAN JUST THAT.

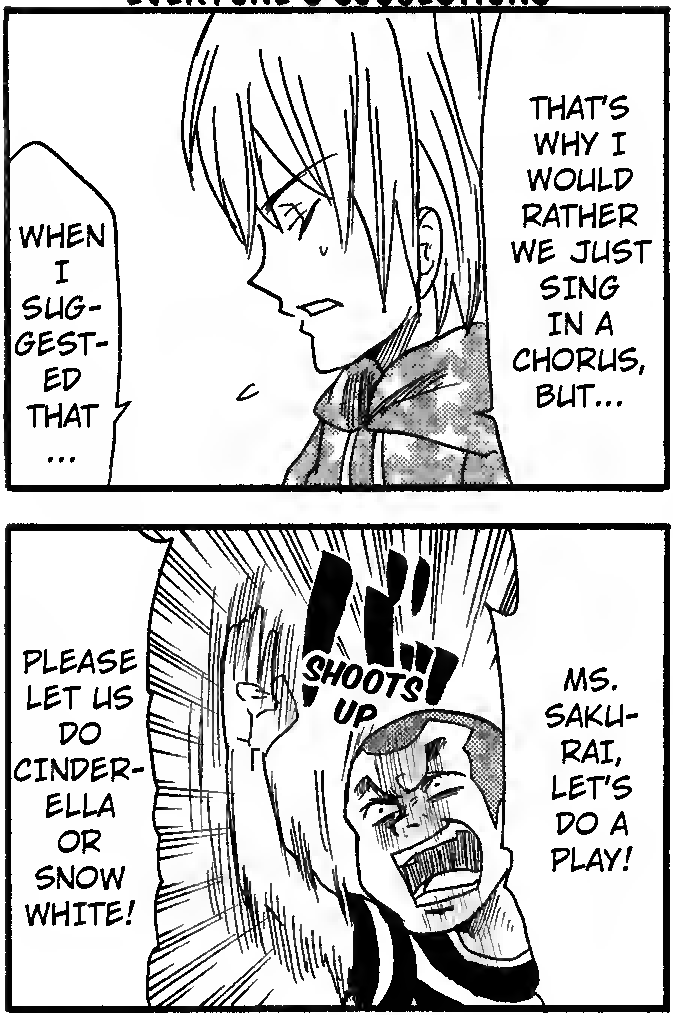

YUKIO, YA REALLY HATE PLAYS THAT MUCH...?
NO... IT'S JUST ...
I'VE... ONLY EVER PLAYED ROLES LIKE "TREE" AND STUFF...
OH...

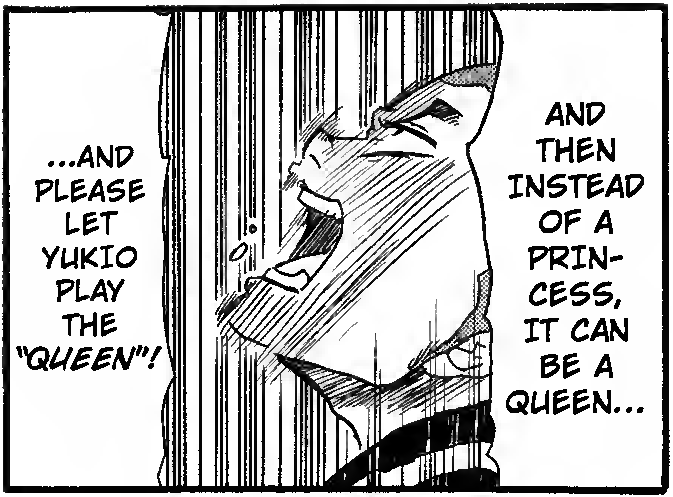
MOM'S REACTION

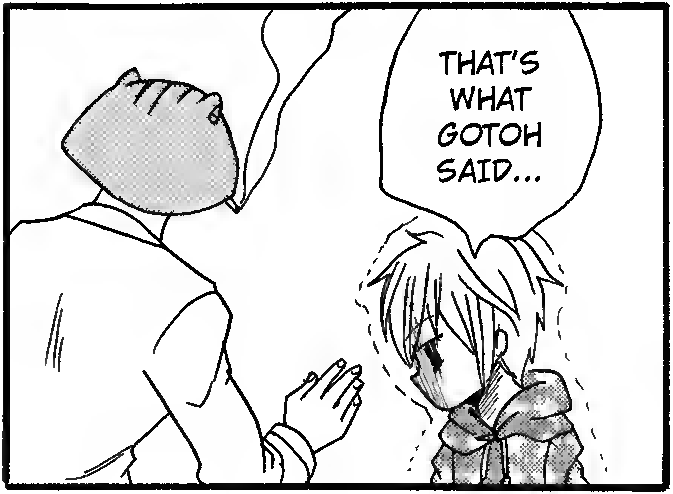


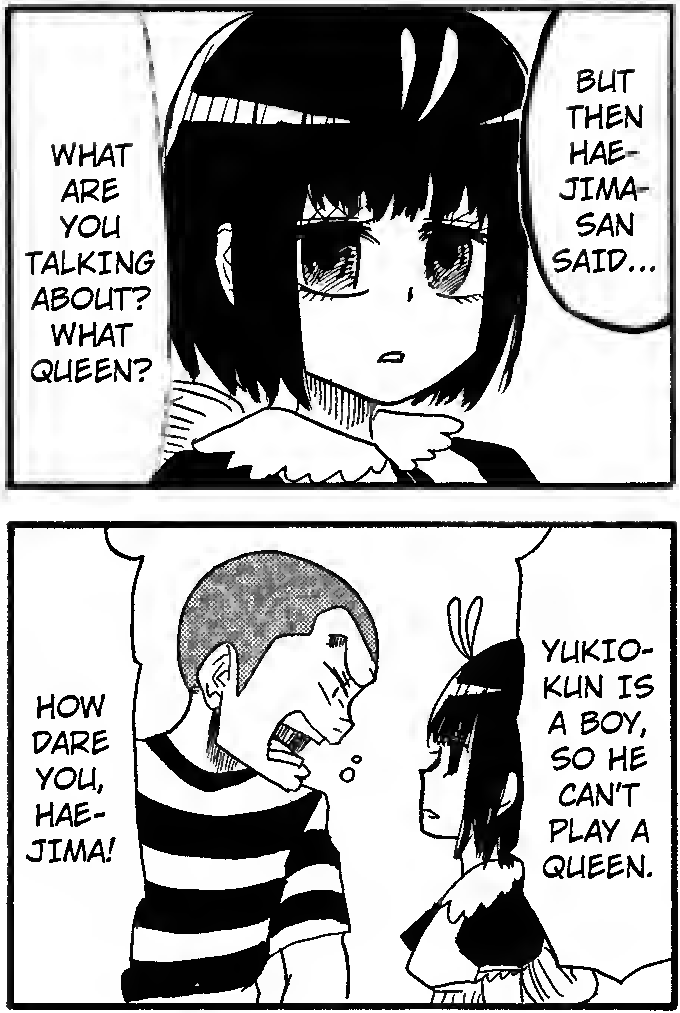

NO, JUST THE OPPO-SITE.
ユキオちゃんかわいい
YUKIO-CHAN, YOU LOOK SO COOL!
FLASH
FLASH
FLASH
FLASH
FLASH
WOOOOOOO
WOOOOOOO
きゃあ こっち向いて ユキ
LOOK THIS WAY, YUKIO-CHAN!

SHE CHEERS SUPER LOUD AND TAKES TONS OF PICS.
OH...


EVERYONE'S SUGGESTIONS
WHEN I SUG-GEST-ED THAT ...
THAT'S WHY I WOULD RATHER WE JUST SING IN A CHORUS, BUT...
PLEASE LET US DO CINDER-ELLA OR SNOW WHITE!
SHOOTS UP
MS. SAKU-RAI, LET'S DO A PLAY!

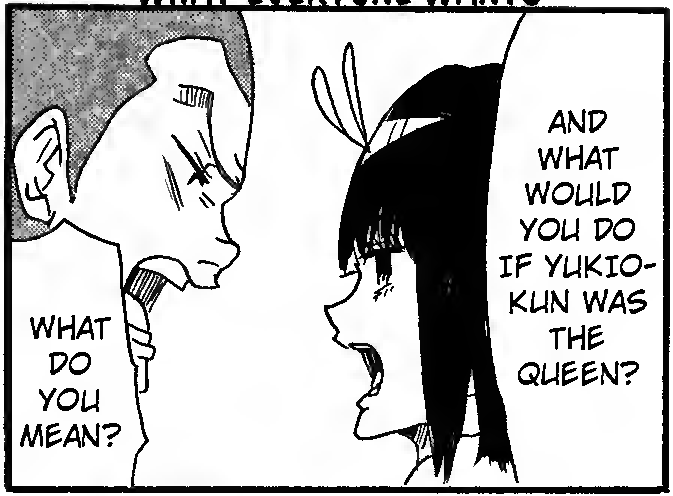

AND THEN INSTEAD OF A PRIN-CESS, IT CAN BE A QUEEN...
...AND PLEASE LET YUKIO PLAY THE "QUEEN"!

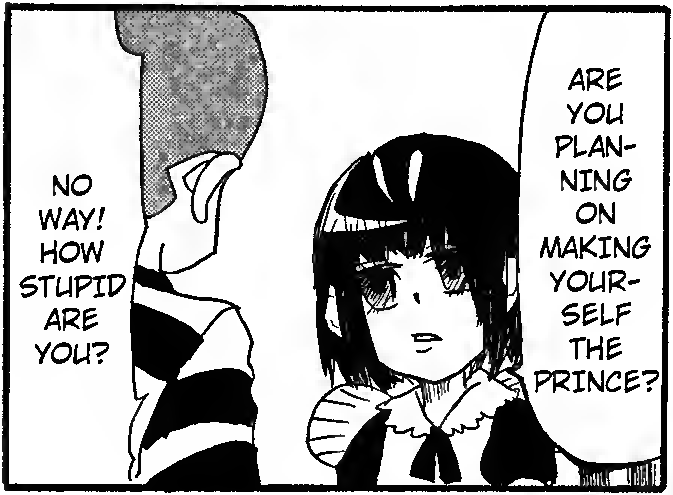

THAT'S WHAT GOTOH SAID...


BUT THEN HAE-JIMA-SAN SAID...
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? WHAT QUEEN?
YUKIO-KUN IS A BOY, SO HE CAN'T PLAY A QUEEN.
HOW DARE YOU, HAE-JIMA!

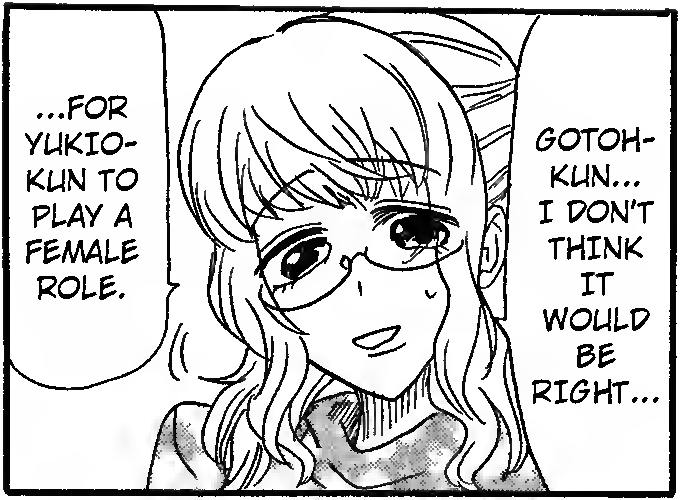
IF YUKIO-KUN IS PLAYING THE PART, IT SHOULD BE A PRINCE.
UH...
AND I'LL PLAY THE PRIN-CESS.
YOU JUST WANT TO DO WHAT YOU WANT, DON'T YOU?!

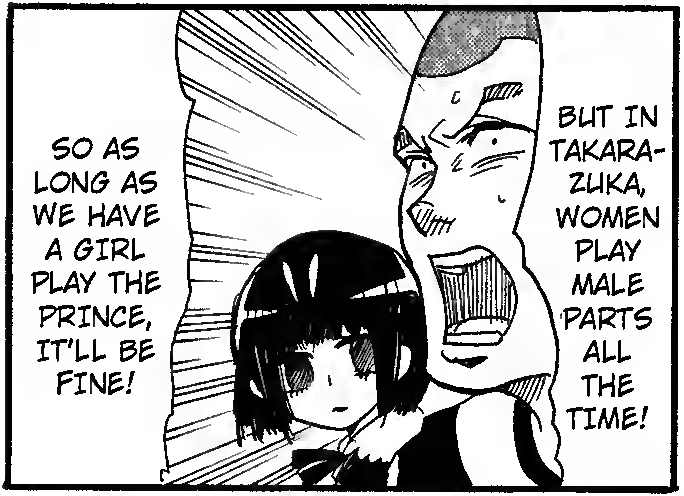
WHAT EVERYONE WANTS



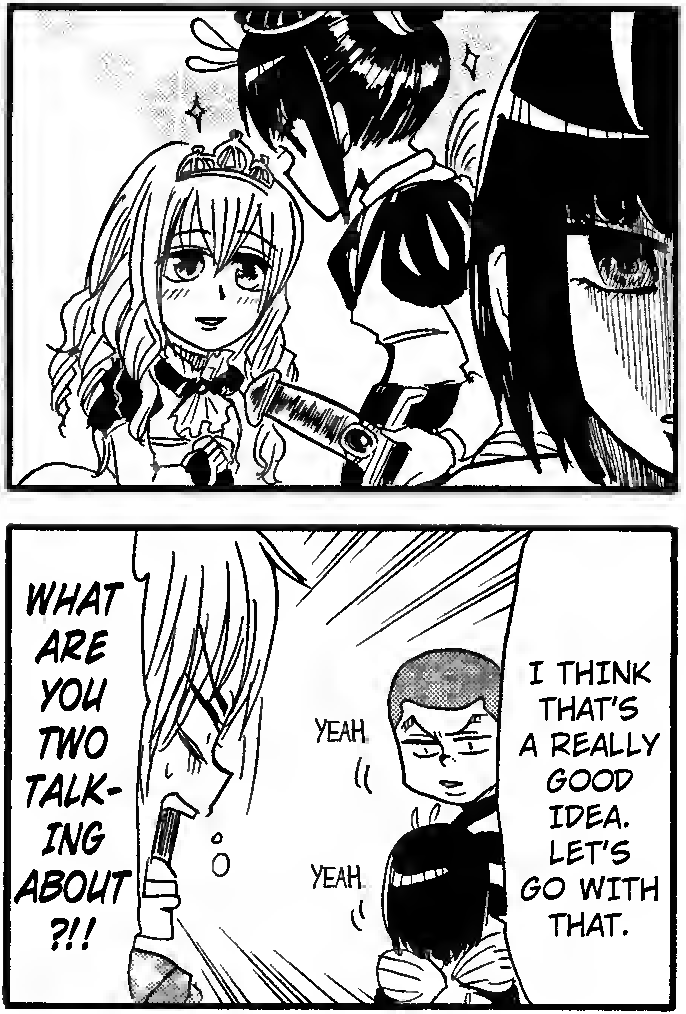


I DON'T CARE WHAT THE STORY IS, I JUST WANT TO PLAY THE HORSE THAT DRAWS THE CARRIAGE...
...SO YUKIO CAN SAY "RUN FASTER!" AND HIT ME WITH THE WHIP!
IN THAT CASE, I'D BE FINE WITH IT.
I'M NOT !!



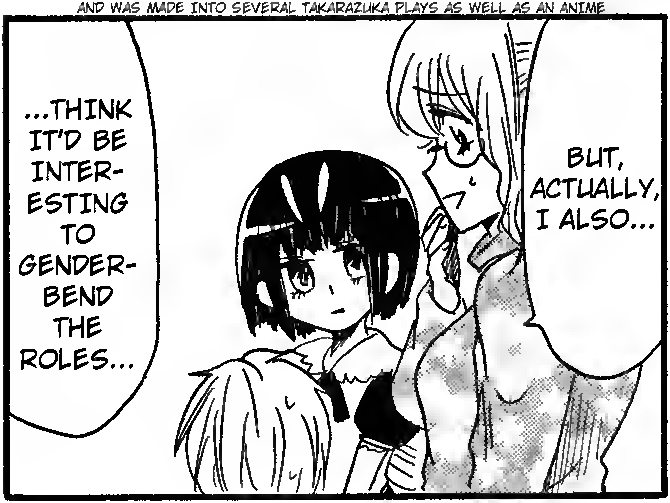


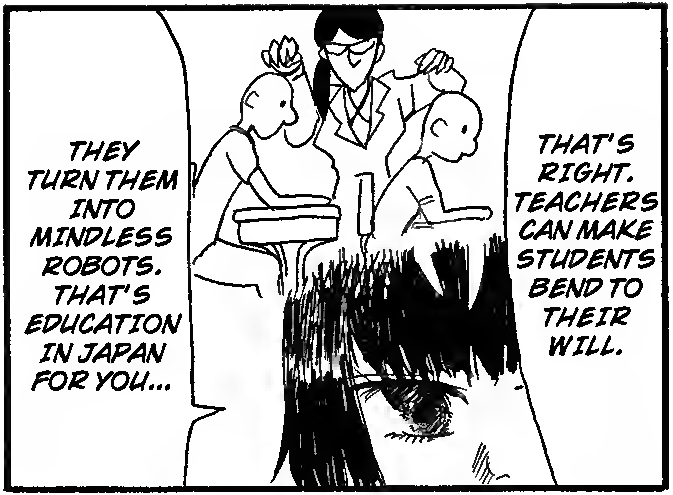
**TAKARAZUKA IS AN ALL-FEMALE MUSICAL THEATER GROUP

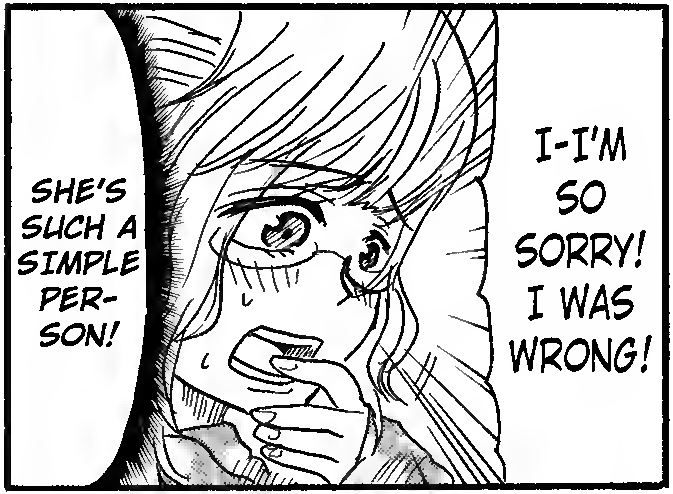

I THINK THAT'S A REALLY GOOD IDEA. LET'S GO WITH THAT.
YEAH.
YEAH.
WHAT ARE YOU TWO TALK-ING ABOUT ?!!

THE TEACHER IS WON OVER

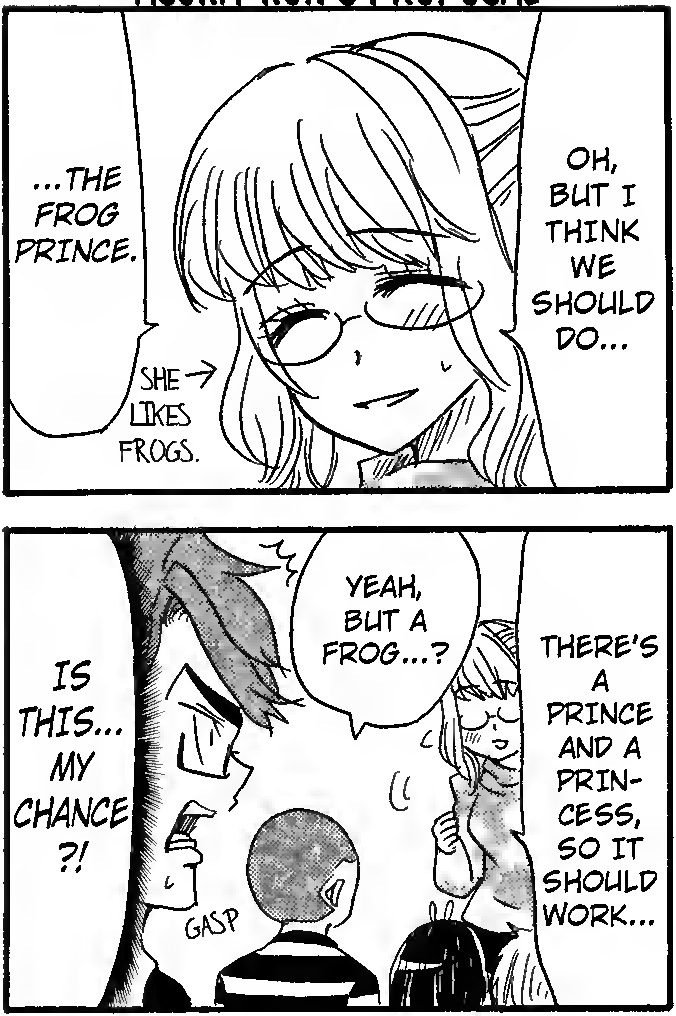
**ROSE OF VERSAILLES IS A COMIC ABOUT A GIRL RAISED AS A BOY AND WAS MADE INTO SEVERAL TAKARAZUKA PLAYS AS WELL AS AN ANIME

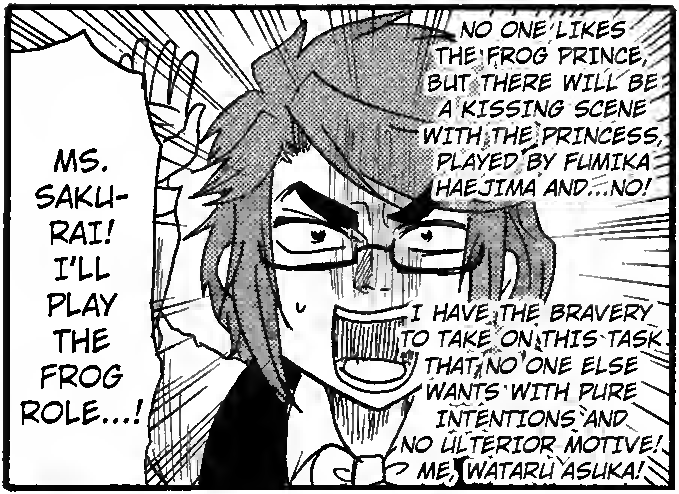


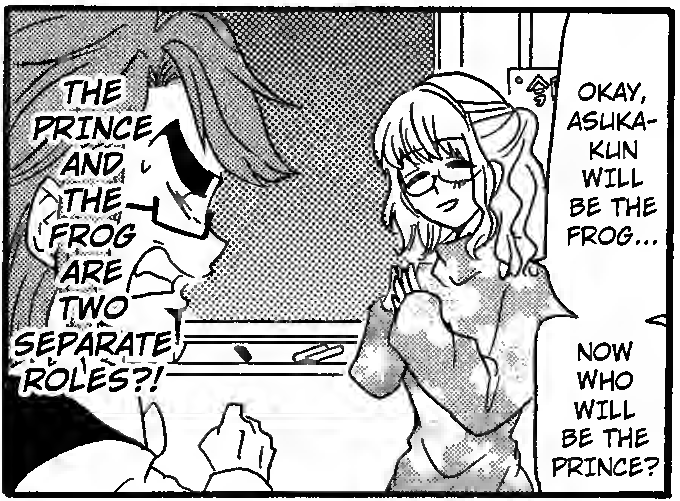

THEY TURN THEM INTO MINDLESS ROBOTS. THAT'S EDUCATION IN JAPAN FOR YOU...
THAT'S RIGHT. TEACHERS CAN MAKE STUDENTS BEND TO THEIR WILL.

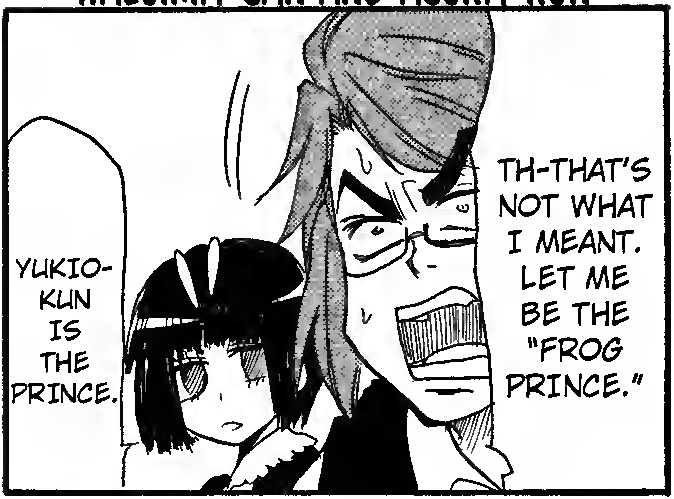

SHE'S SUCH A SIMPLE PER-SON!
I-I'M SO SORRY! I WAS WRONG!

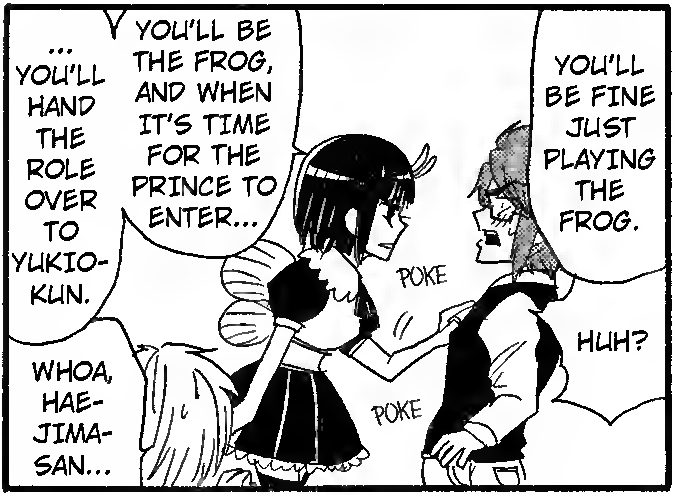
ASUKA-KUN'S PROPOSAL


OH, BUT I THINK WE SHOULD DO...
THERE'S A PRINCE AND A PRINCESS, SO IT SHOULD WORK...
...THE FROG PRINCE.
SHE LIKES FROGS.
YEAH, BUT A FROG...?
IS THIS... MY CHANCE?!
GASP


NO ONE LIKES THE FROG PRINCE, BUT THERE WILL BE A KISSING SCENE WITH THE PRINCESS, PLAYED BY FUMIKA HAEJIMA AND...NO!
MS. SAKURAI! I'LL PLAY THE FROG ROLE...!
I HAVE THE BRAVERY TO TAKE ON THIS TASK THAT NO ONE ELSE WANTS WITH PURE INTENTIONS AND NO ULTERIOR MOTIVE! ME, WATARU ASUKA!

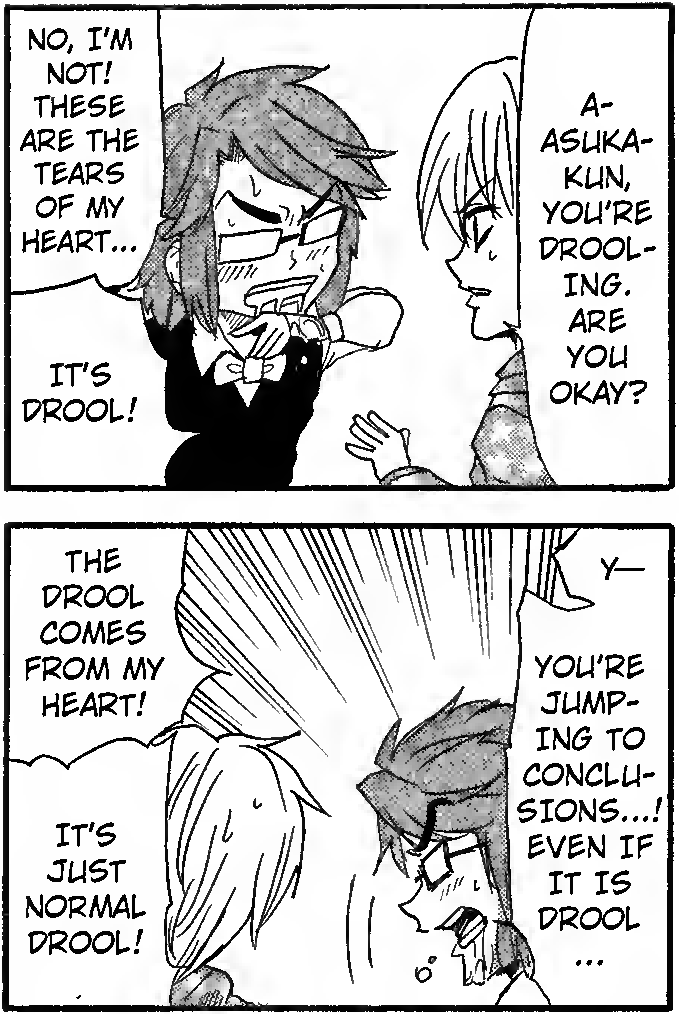

THE PRINCE AND THE FROG ARE TWO SEPARATE ROLES?!
OKAY, ASUKA-KUN WILL BE THE FROG...
NOW WHO WILL BE THE PRINCE?

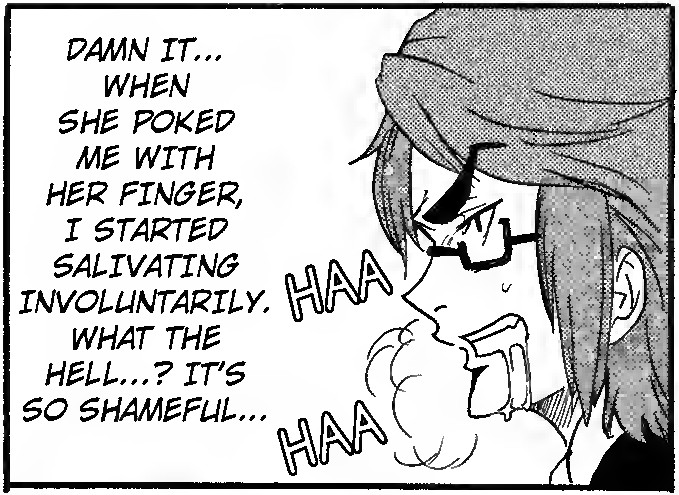

YUKIO-KUN IS THE PRINCE.
TH-THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT. LET ME BE THE "FROG PRINCE."

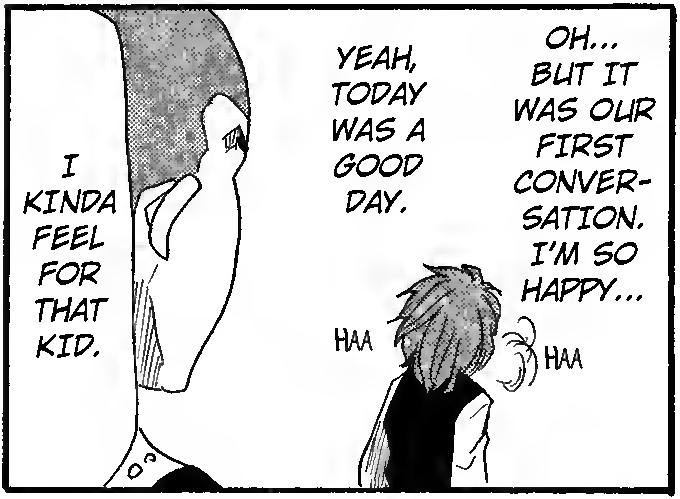

... YOU'LL HAND THE ROLE OVER TO YUKIO-KUN.
YOU'LL BE THE FROG, AND WHEN IT'S TIME FOR THE PRINCE TO ENTER...
YOU'LL BE FINE JUST PLAYING THE FROG.
POKE
POKE
WHOA, HAE-JIMA-SAN...
HUH?

ARE WE DONE HERE?

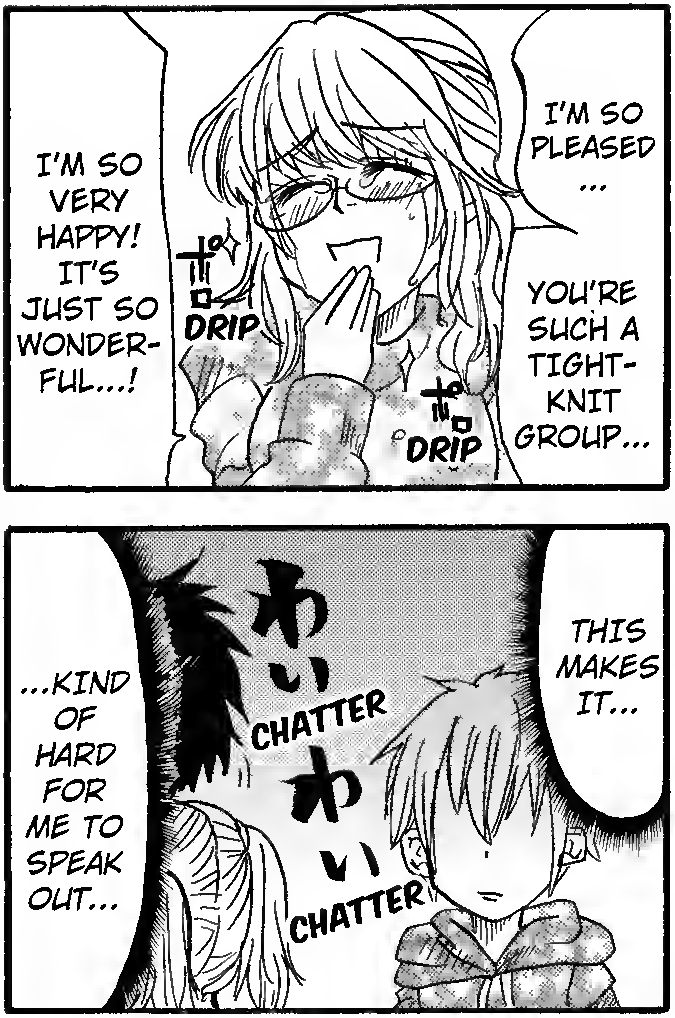
SHE SMELLS SO GOOD...!
Y-YES...

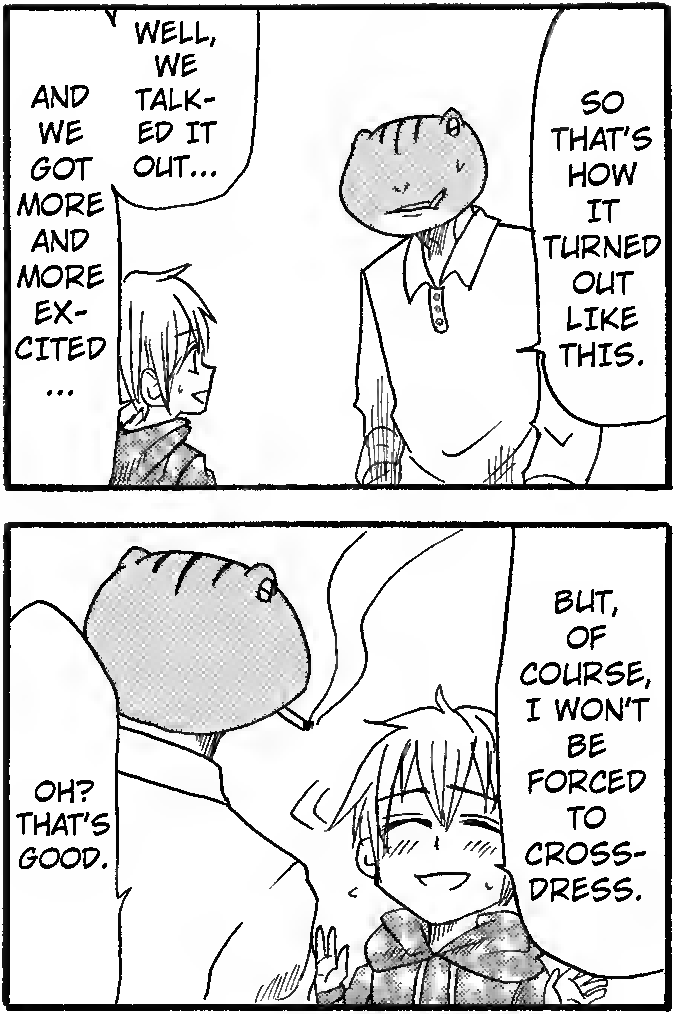

A-ASUKA-KUN, YOU'RE DROOL-ING. ARE YOU OKAY?
NO, I'M NOT! THESE ARE THE TEARS OF MY HEART...
IT'S DROOL!
Y—
YOU'RE JUMP-ING TO CONCLU-SIONS...! EVEN IF IT IS DROOL ...
THE DROOL COMES FROM MY HEART!
IT'S JUST NORMAL DROOL!

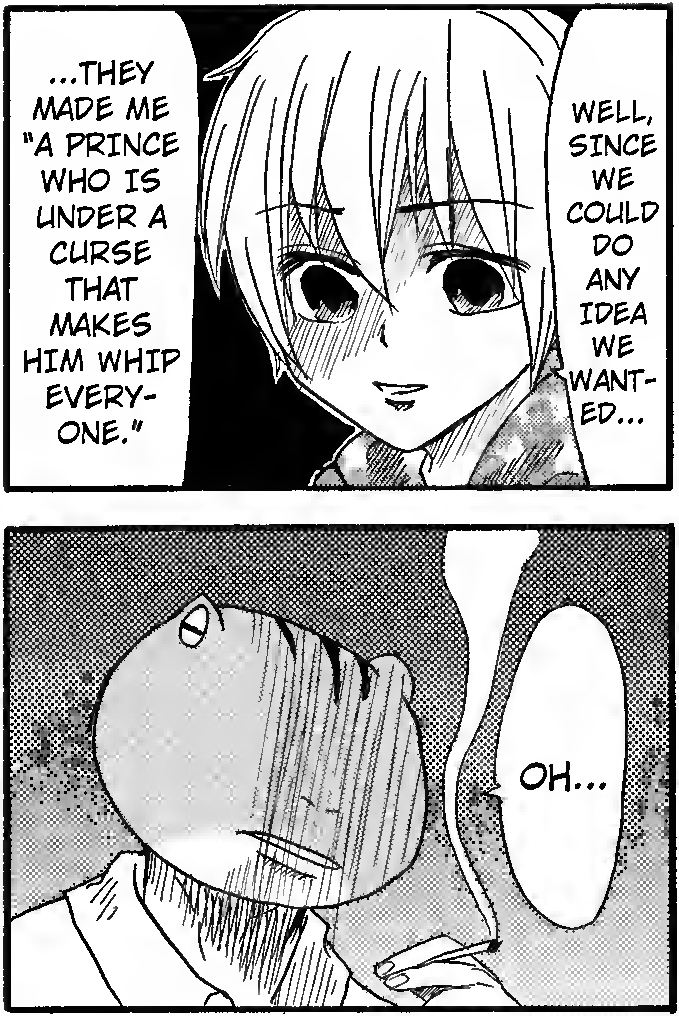

DAMN IT... WHEN SHE POKED ME WITH HER FINGER, I STARTED SALIVATING INVOLUNTARILY. WHAT THE HELL...? IT'S SO SHAMEFUL...
HAA
HAA


I KINDA FEEL FOR THAT KID.
YEAH, TODAY WAS A GOOD DAY.
OH... BUT IT WAS OUR FIRST CONVER-SATION. I'M SO HAPPY...
HAA
HAA

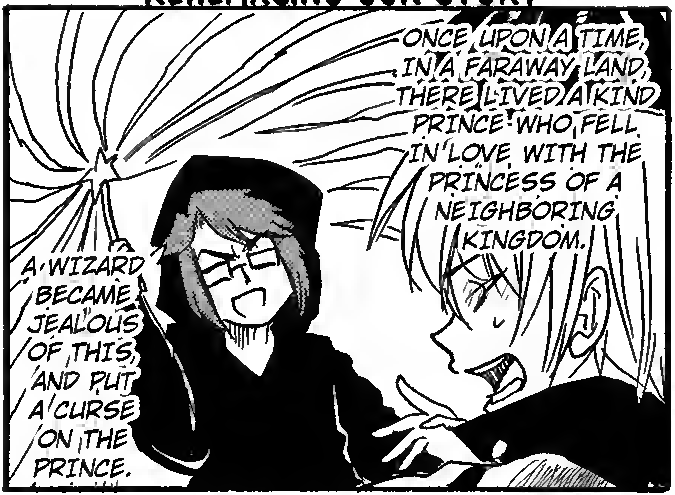
OUR STORY
IN THAT CASE, WHY DON'T WE MAKE OUR OWN STORY?
WE'LL MAKE A PLAY ALL OUR OWN!
THAT SOUNDS COOL...
YEAH.
CHATTER
LET'S DO IT! ALL OF US!

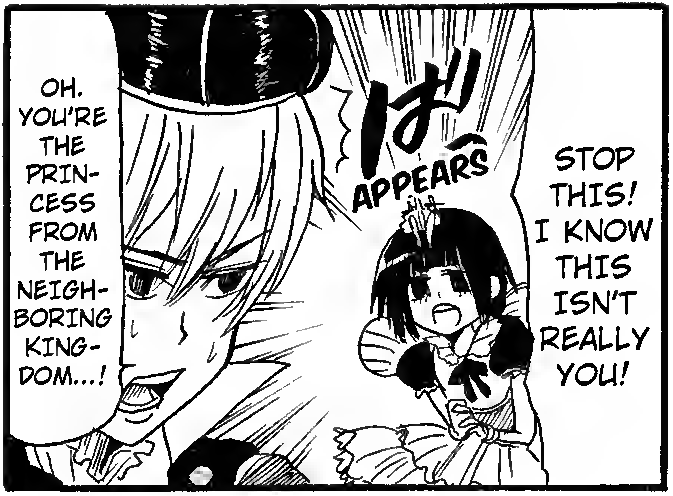

I'M SO PLEASED...
YOU'RE SUCH A TIGHT-KNIT GROUP...
DRIP
DRIP
I'M SO VERY HAPPY! IT'S JUST SO WONDER-FUL...!
THIS MAKES IT...
わい
CHATTER
わい
CHATTER
...KIND OF HARD FOR ME TO SPEAK OUT...

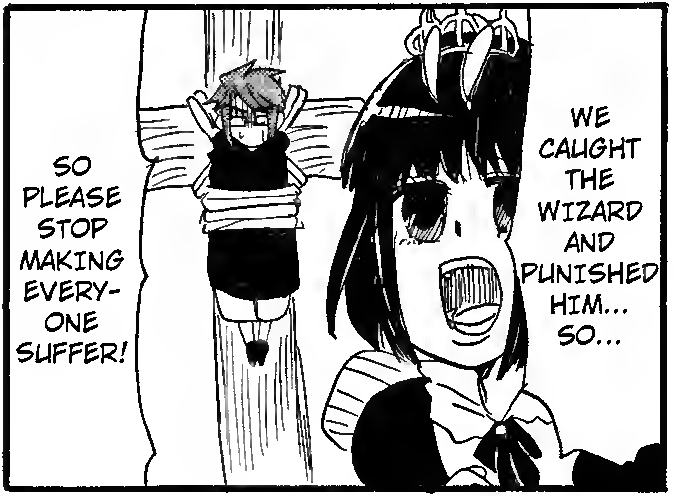

WELL, WE TALK-ED IT OUT...
AND WE GOT MORE AND MORE EX-CITED ...
SO THAT'S HOW IT TURNED OUT LIKE THIS.
OH? THAT'S GOOD.
BUT, OF COURSE, I WON'T BE FORCED TO CROSS-DRESS.

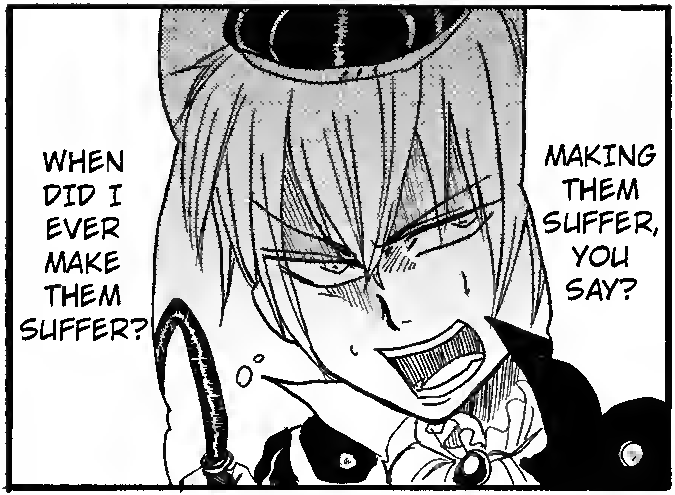

WELL, SINCE WE COULD DO ANY IDEA WE WANT-ED...
...THEY MADE ME "A PRINCE WHO IS UNDER A CURSE THAT MAKES HIM WHIP EVERY-ONE."
OH...

REHEARSING OUR STORY

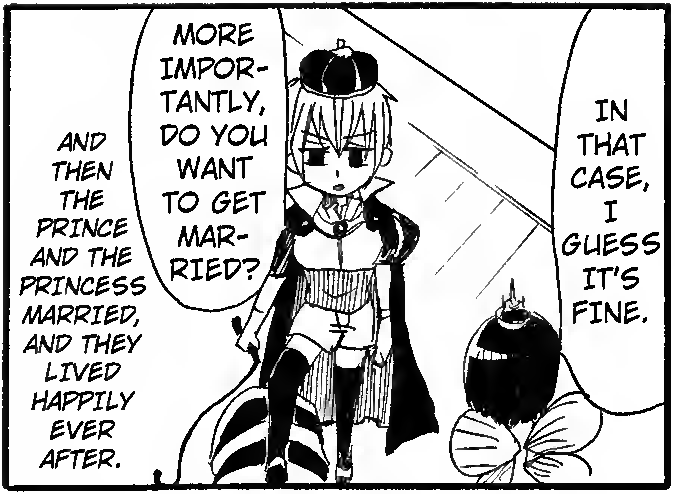

ONCE UPON A TIME, IN A FARAWAY LAND, THERE LIVED A KIND PRINCE WHO FELL IN LOVE WITH THE PRINCESS OF A NEIGHBORING KINGDOM.
A WIZARD BECAME JEALOUS OF THIS, AND PUT A CURSE ON THE PRINCE.

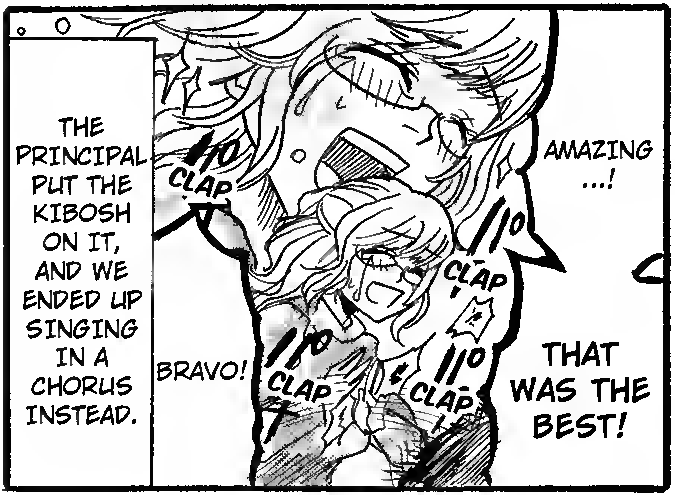

OH. YOU'RE THE PRINCESS FROM THE NEIGHBORING KINGDOM...!
ばっ
APPEARS
STOP THIS! I KNOW THIS ISN'T REALLY YOU!


SO PLEASE STOP MAKING EVERYONE SUFFER!
WE CAUGHT THE WIZARD AND PUNISHED HIM... SO...

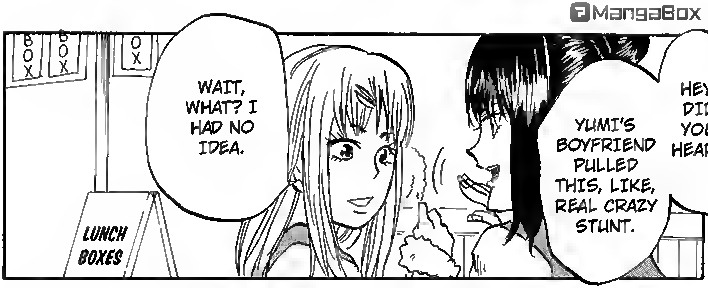

WHEN DID I EVER MAKE THEM SUFFER?
MAKING THEM SUFFER, YOU SAY?

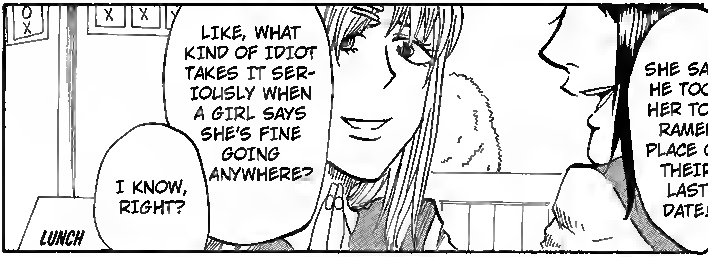
I LIKE IT WHEN HE DOES THIS TO ME.
AH.
HAA
HAA

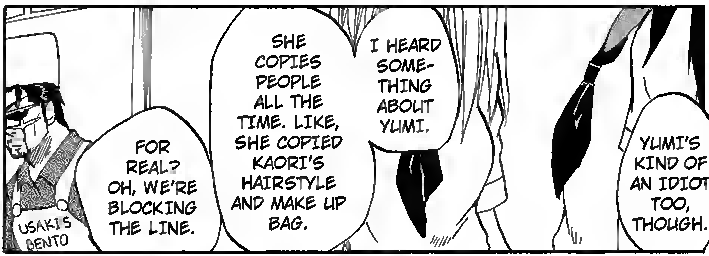

AND THEN THE PRINCE AND THE PRINCESS MARRIED, AND THEY LIVED HAPPILY EVER AFTER.
MORE IMPORTANTLY, DO YOU WANT TO GET MARRIED?
IN THAT CASE, I GUESS IT'S FINE.


THE PRINCIPAL PUT THE KIBOSH ON IT, AND WE ENDED UP SINGING IN A CHORUS INSTEAD.
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
BRAVO!
AMAZING ...!
THAT WAS THE BEST!

MangaBox




LIKE, WHAT KIND OF IDIOT TAKES IT SERIOUSLY WHEN A GIRL SAYS SHE'S FINE GOING ANYWHERE?
SHE SAID HE TOOK HER TO A RAMEN PLACE ON THEIR LAST DATE!
I KNOW, RIGHT?
LUNCH


SHE COPIES PEOPLE ALL THE TIME. LIKE, SHE COPIED KAORI'S HAIRSTYLE AND MAKE UP BAG.
I HEARD SOMETHING ABOUT YUMI.
YUMI'S KIND OF AN IDIOT TOO, THOUGH.
FOR REAL? OH, WE'RE BLOCKING THE LINE.
USAKI'S BENTO

CHAPTER 26 THE OLD MAN'S GROUP CHATS

Translation by Melissa Goldberg
Adaptation by Alexandra Swanson
YKS SERVICES LLC/SKY JAPAN, Inc

WOMEN ARE LIKE ALIENS TO ME...
WHAT ARE THEY?
I CAN'T UNDERSTAND THEM AT ALL...
SIGH
USAKI'S BENTO
WHY ARE YOU ASKING A FOURTH GRADER ABOUT THAT?
AND WHY WERE YOU EAVESDROPPING ON TWO HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS, ANYWAY...?
PLEASE DON'T MISUNDERSTAND!
YOU SEE, SINCE I RUN A BENTO BOX SHOP, LUNCHTIME IS WHEN I MAKE THE MOST MONEY
SO WHEN I SELL BENTO BOXES OUTSIDE THE GATES OF THE SCHOOL, I END UP OVERHEARING STUFF EVEN IF I'M NOT TRYING TO
OH
WHEN I SAY "HEAR", I DON'T MEAN WITH MY RABBIT EARS.
YEAH, THAT NEVER EVEN OCCURRED TO ME

I REALLY DON'T UNDERSTAND WOMEN.
BACK IN HIGH SCHOOL, EVEN THOUGH I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND SENPAI, HE WAS STILL REALLY COOL.
I'M...
...GONNA BE AN ANTI-SOCIAL MAN.
OH... I SEE.
I CAME BY TODAY TO ASK SENPAI THE WAY TO A WOMAN'S HEART.
WELL,
I DON'T THINK THAT WILL HELP YOU
WHAT?
YOU DON'T KNOW? SENPAI IS REALLY POPULAR WITH THE LADIES, YUKIO-BOCCHAN!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? HOW DUMB ARE YOU?
THAT'S HARSH! I'M TELLING THE TRUTH!
I, ON THE OTHER HAND, WAS UNLUCKY IN LOVE...
AHH...
USAKI'S BENTO
I ONCE THOUGHT THAT IF I WORE WOMEN'S CLOTHES, I MIGHT BE ABLE TO UNDERSTAND THEM BETTER.
THAT MIGHT WORK
USAKI'S BENTO
WEARING THEIR CLOTHES WON'T CHANGE ANYTHING, USAKI-SAN!
NO, I REALIZED THAT TOO, OF COURSE
I PANICKED AND TOOK THE SKIRT RIGHT OFF!
YOU SHOULD HAVE REALIZED WAY BEFORE THAT!

THE OLD MAN WENT TO BUY CIGARETTES, SO MAYBE IT'D BE BETTER TO ASK HAEJIMA-SAN INSTEAD.
OH.
THAT'S TRUE! HE'S MARRIED AFTER ALL!
HAEJIMA
THEN I'LL GIVE HIM A QUICK CALL...
HUH? HE'S NOT PICKING UP.
BUT HE SAID HE WAS OFF WORK TODAY..
RING RING RING RING
WELL, IF HE'S NOT ANSWERING, THERE'S NOTHING WE—
HMM?
RING RING RING RING
RING RING RING RING
WHAT ARE YOU TWO DOING?!

THIS STORY IS FICTIONAL, AND COMPLETELY UNRELATED TO ANY REAL PEOPLE, GROUPS, OR EVENTS.

IT'S THE PALO SPECIAL.
I DIDN'T MEAN THE NAME OF THE MOVE!
CAN'T YA TELL ..?
STRAIN STRAIN
OH, YUKIO.
GLATTER
SHOCK
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, OLD MAN?
..I SAW THIS GLY DRIVIN' AROUND IN A FOREIGN CAR AND IT PISSED ME OFF..
HAA HAA
WELL, ON THE WAY BACK FROM BUYIN' CIGS..
HOW IN THE WORLD DID THINGS END UP LIKE THAT?
WE'RE FINE, RIGHT, HAE-JIMA?
I'M DY-ING.
HE JUST SAID HE'S DYING!
THAT LOOKS PAIN-FUL. STOP IT!
SHAKE SHAKE
CAN YOU PLEASE NOT TOUCH ME?
HAAA HAAA
WHEEZE WHEEZE
THIS IS JUST A WAY THAT MEN DEEPEN THE BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THEM.
IT'S FINE, YUKIO-KUN...

**THE PALO SPECIAL IS THE SIGNATURE MOVE OF A COMIC CHARACTER NAMED WARSMAN

OKAY, SENPAI! GIVE ME YOUR BEST SHOT!
BUT HE'S NEVER DONE THAT WITH ME!
USAKI-SAN, THAT'S NOT WHAT YOU CAME HERE FOR!
HUH? YA WANT ME TO?
THAT'S SO UNFAIR! SENPAI, PLEASE DO THAT MOVE ON ME TOO!
FLIP
GRAB
SQUEEZE
OKAY.
HUP...
SLAM
OH... RIGHT.. TRUTH-FULLY, A LITTLE OF THIS AND A LITTLE OF THAT...
ICE
SO ANY-WAY, WHY ARE YA HERE?
HALF AN HOUR LA-TER
"FRANKENSTEINER"
A PRO WRESTLING MOVE INVENTED BY SCOTT STEINER. IN JAPAN, IT'S OFTEN USED BY THE WRESTLER JUSHIN "THUNDER" LIGER.

!
WHAT I SAW BACK THEN...
WELL, HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS NEVER CHANGE THEY'RE THE SAME NOW AS THEY WERE THEN.
IT'S JUST ME AND THE KID HERE.
HAA
WHAT? THAT ISSUE AGAIN...?
OWH
YOU TWO ARE FROM THE GIRL GANG THAT'S TRYING TO TAKE OVER THIS PLACE
OUR BOSS KYOKO-SAN WON'T STAY QUIET ABOUT THIS!
BITCH, DON'T GET COCKY JUST 'CAUSE YOU THINK YOU'RE SO HOT.
...YOU SAVED ME THE TROUBLE OF LOOKING FOR YOU.
BY TAKING THE TIME TO COME HERE ON YOUR OWN...
WHOA! HEY! WHAT WERE YOU REMINI-SCING ABOUT JUST NOW?!
LET'S PUT THAT ASIDE
OH, THAT'S A STORY FOR ANO-THER TIME
TH-THE QUEEN ...!
A—
ARE YOU THAT GIRL.. WE'VE HEARD RUMORS ABOUT ..?

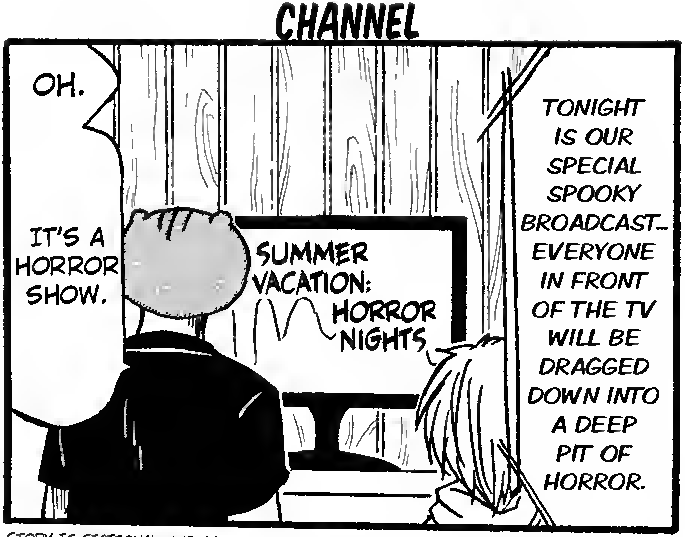
WOBBLE WOBBLE
IT'S BOTHERING YOU, RIGHT? TELL ME!
SAY SOMETHING!
HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS SURE ARE IMPOSSIBLE TO UNDERSTAND. MAKES ME FEEL OLD
WE'VE MOVED PAST THAT TOPIC ALREADY!
OH, BUT HAEJIMA-SAN, YOU'RE MARRIED, SO I FIGURED YOU UNDERSTOOD WOMEN BETTER THAN THE REST OF US
HUH?
YOU MEAN ME?
NO, THAT'S NOT TRUE AT ALL
A MATCHMAKER SET IT ALL UP
BLUSH BLUSH
BUT I HEARD MY WIFE CHOSE ME BASED ON MY FACE.
AHA HA HA. ☆
THE MYSTERIES JUST KEEP PILING UP ONE BY ONE.
USAKI'S BENTO
TO BE CONTINUED!

Translation by Melissa Goldberg
Adaptation by Alexandra Swanson
YKS SERVICES LLC/SKY JAPAN, Inc.

MangaBox

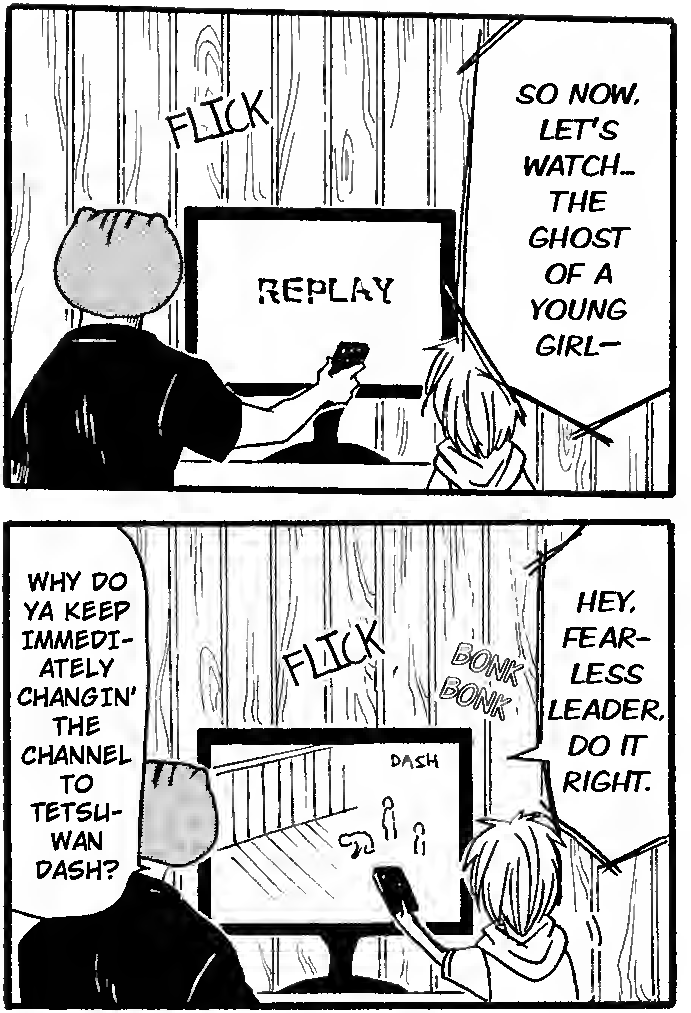
CHAPTER 27
THE OLD MAN AND HORROR

ZENYU SHIMABUKURO

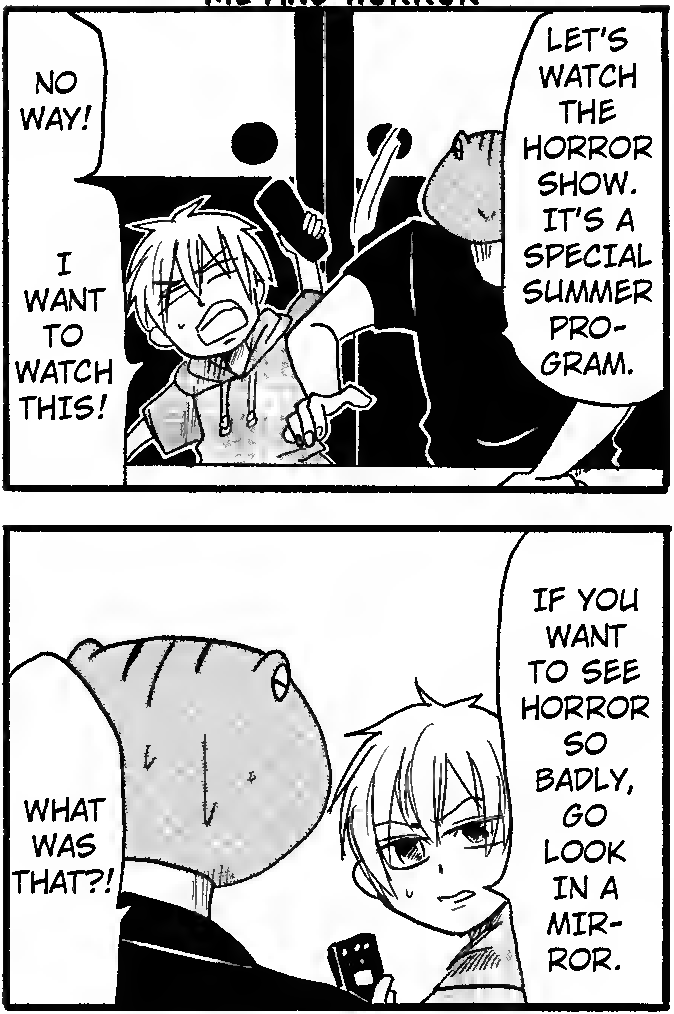

CHANNEL
OH.
IT'S A HORROR SHOW.
SUMMER VACATION: HORROR NIGHTS
TONIGHT IS OUR SPECIAL SPOOKY BROADCAST... EVERYONE IN FRONT OF THE TV WILL BE DRAGGED DOWN INTO A DEEP PIT OF HORROR.

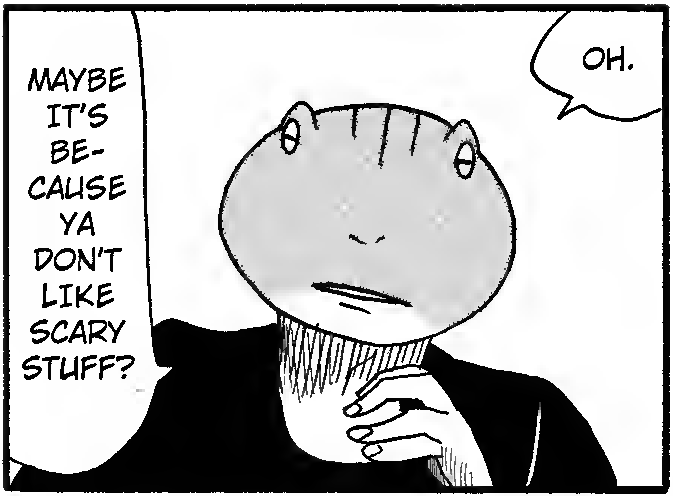
THIS STORY IS FICTIONAL, AND COMPLETELY UNRELATED TO ANY REAL PEOPLE, GROUPS, OR EVENTS

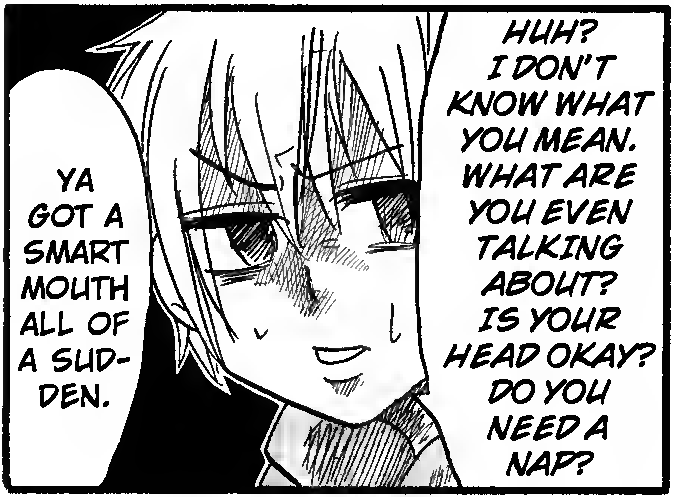
**TOKIO IS A JAPANESE BOY BAND THAT APPEARS ON THE SHOW "TETSUWAN DASH" WHERE THEY BUILD HOMES AND RURAL WORK BUILDINGS


FLICK
REPLAY
SO NOW, LET'S WATCH... THE GHOST OF A YOUNG GIRL—
FLICK
BONK BONK
DASH
HEY, FEAR-LESS LEADER, DO IT RIGHT.
WHY DO YA KEEP IMMEDI-ATELY CHANGIN' THE CHANNEL TO TETSU-WAN DASH?

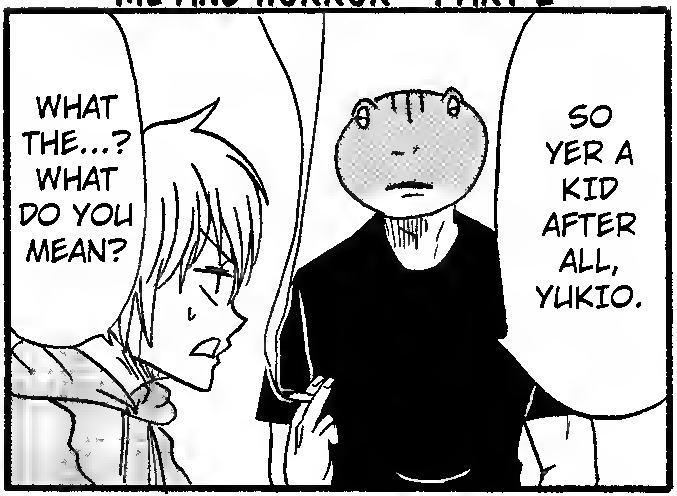
ME AND HORROR

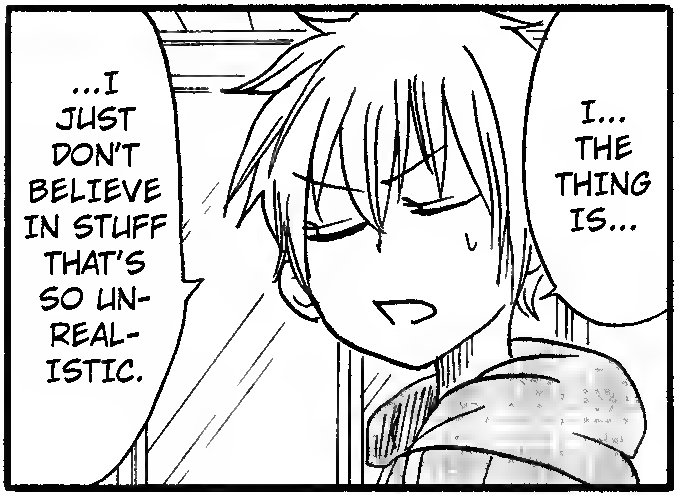

LET'S WATCH THE HORROR SHOW. IT'S A SPECIAL SUMMER PRO-GRAM.
NO WAY!
I WANT TO WATCH THIS!
IF YOU WANT TO SEE HORROR SO BADLY, GO LOOK IN A MIR-ROR.
WHAT WAS THAT?!

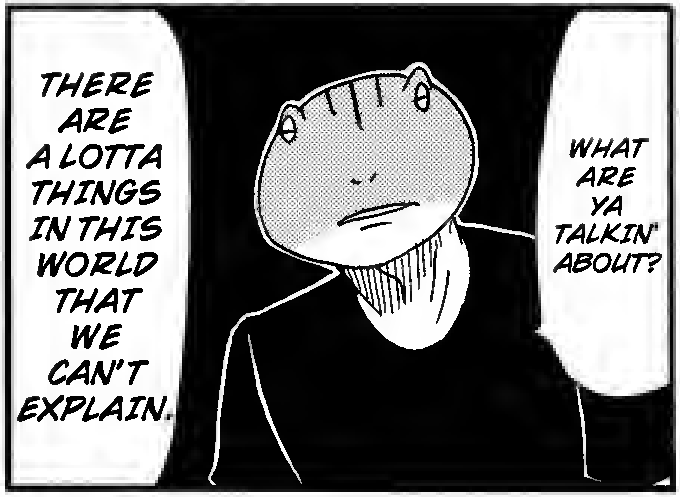

OH.
MAYBE IT'S BE-CAUSE YA DON'T LIKE SCARY STUFF?

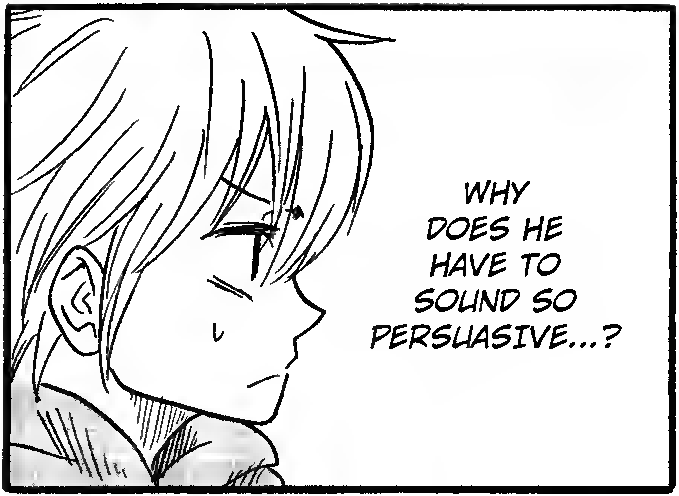

HUH? I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN. WHAT ARE YOU EVEN TALKING ABOUT? IS YOUR HEAD OKAY? DO YOU NEED A NAP?
YA GOT A SMART MOUTH ALL OF A SUD-DEN.

ME AND HORROR - PART 2

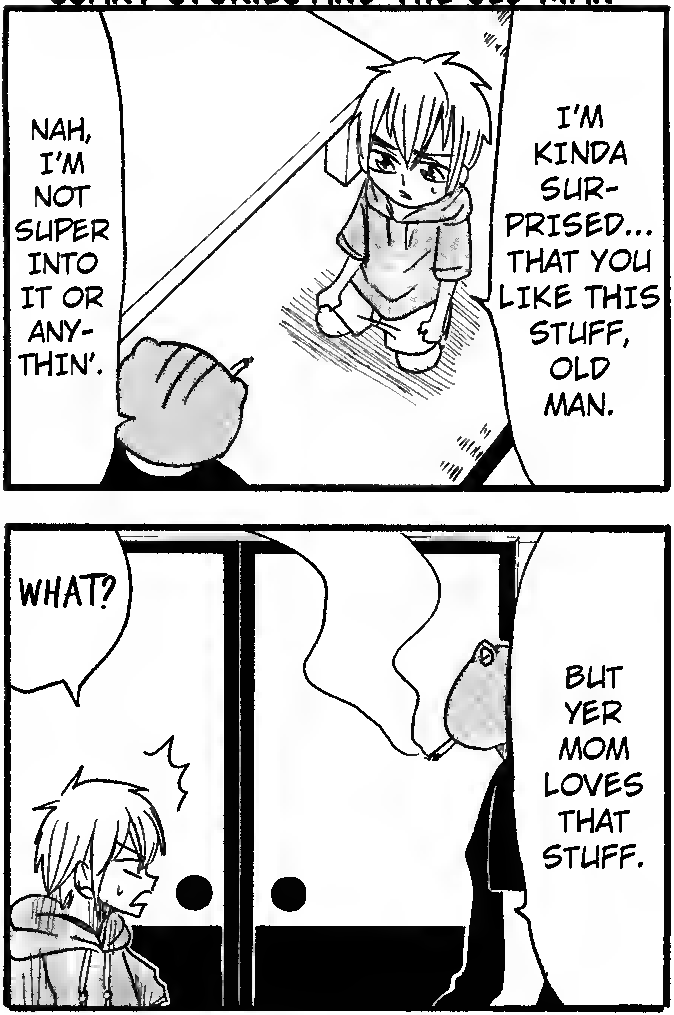


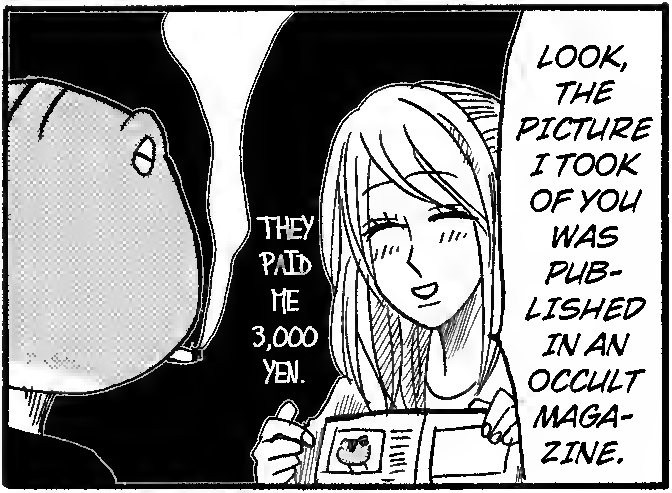



THERE ARE A LOTTA THINGS IN THIS WORLD THAT WE CAN'T EXPLAIN.
WHAT ARE YA TALKIN' ABOUT?

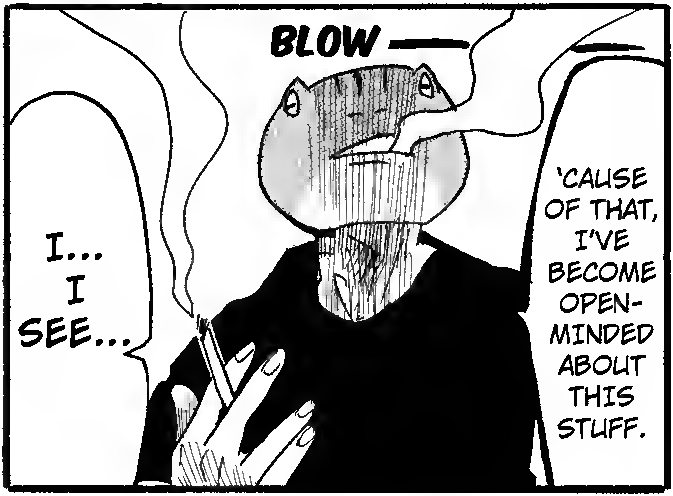

WHY DOES HE HAVE TO SOUND SO PERSUASIVE...?

SCARY STORIES AND THE OLD MAN

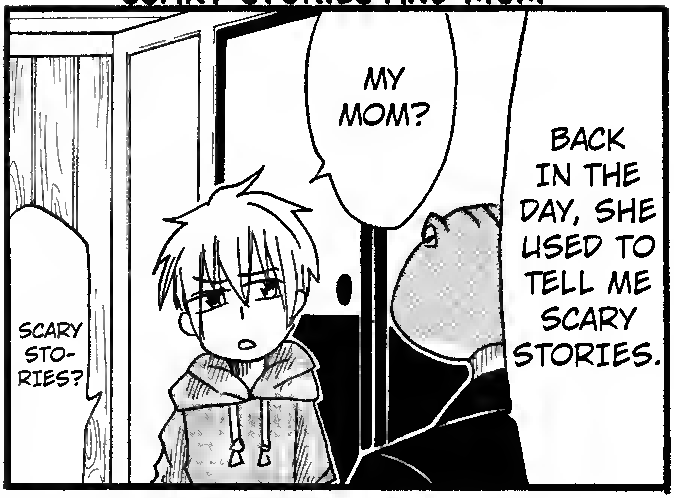


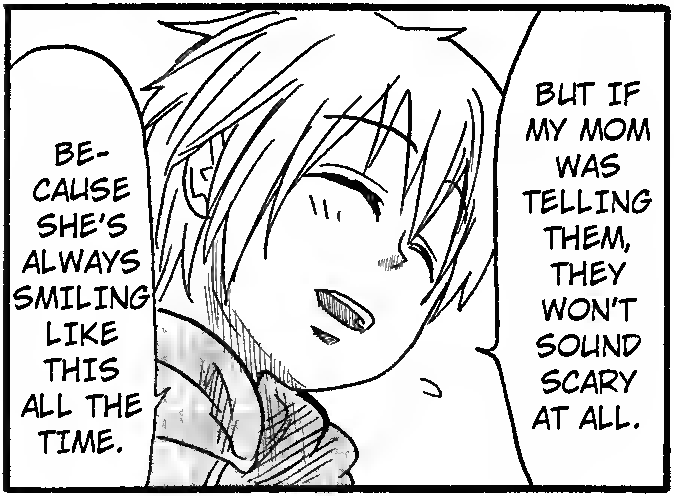


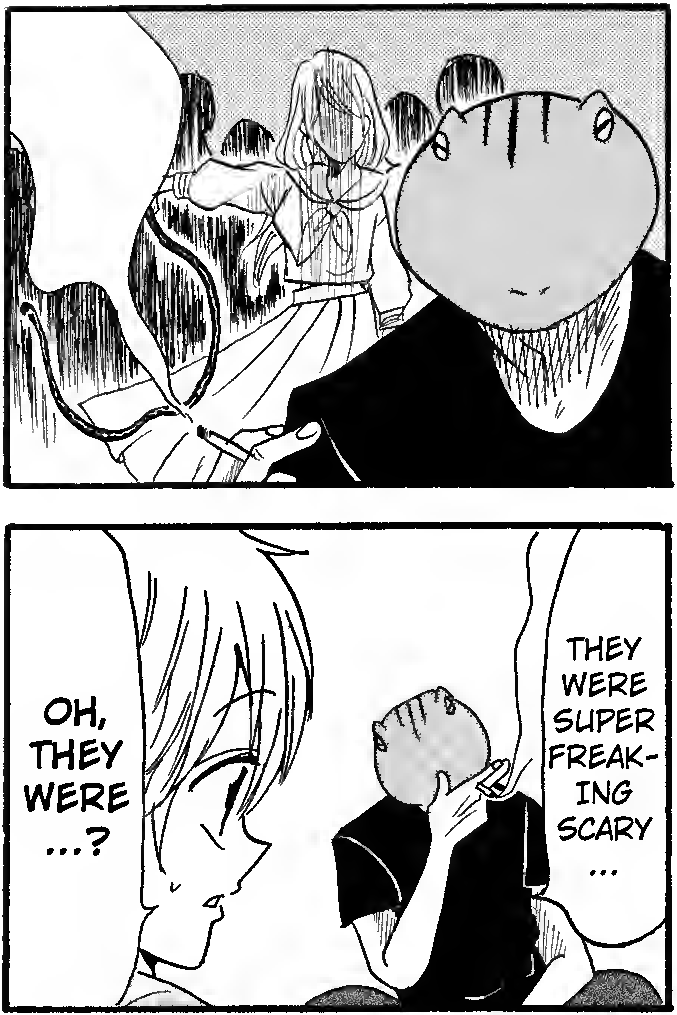
**ABOUT THIRTY DOLLARS



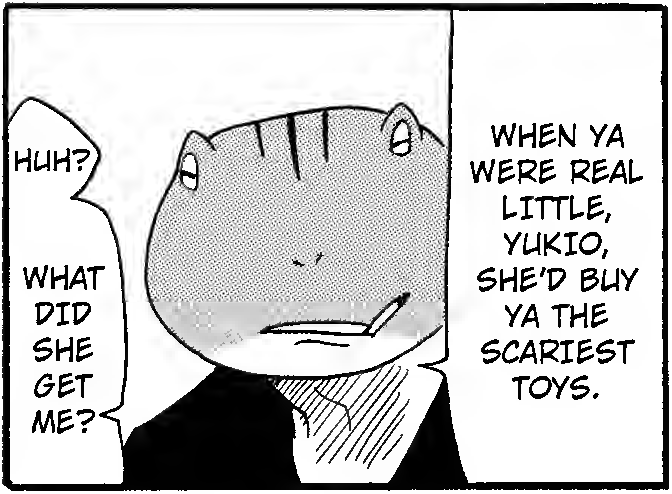
SCARY STORIES AND MOM





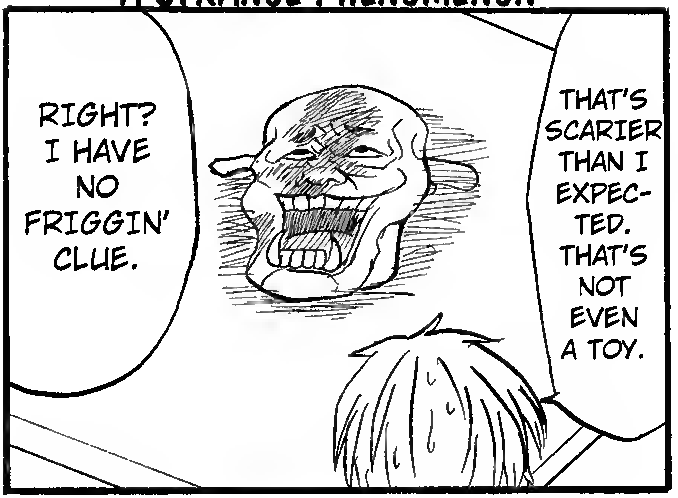

THEY WERE SUPER FREAK-ING SCARY ...
OH, THEY WERE ...?

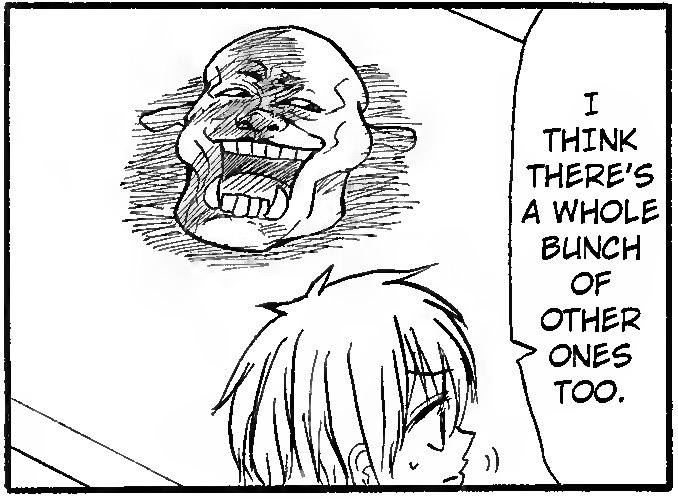
MOM'S AESTHETIC

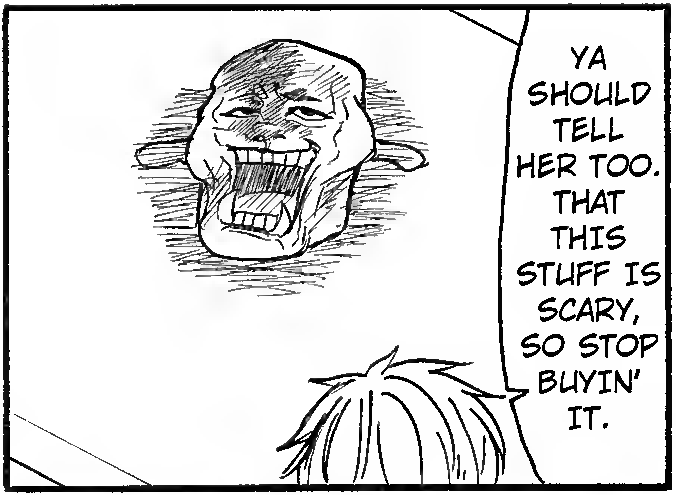


OH, HERE IT IS!!
UH, I THINK IT'S IN HERE.
THIS THING.
CLUNK

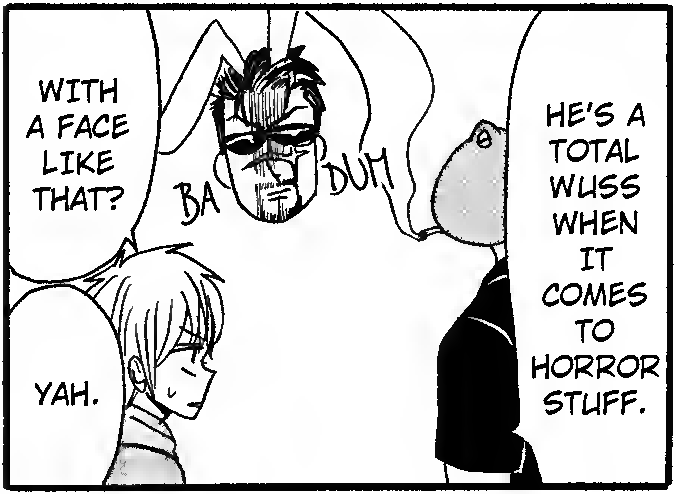
A STRANGE PHENOMENON






YA SHOULD TELL HER TOO. THAT THIS STUFF IS SCARY, SO STOP BUYIN' IT.

HORROR AND USAKI-SAN



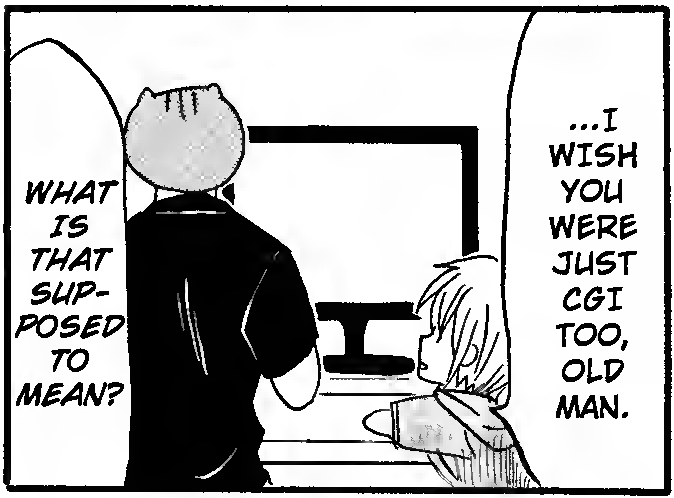
AMBIT THE
WAY BACK WHEN, WE WENT TO SEE A HORROR MOVIE TOGE-THER.
SHAKE CHATTER
SQUEEZE
SHAKE CHATTER

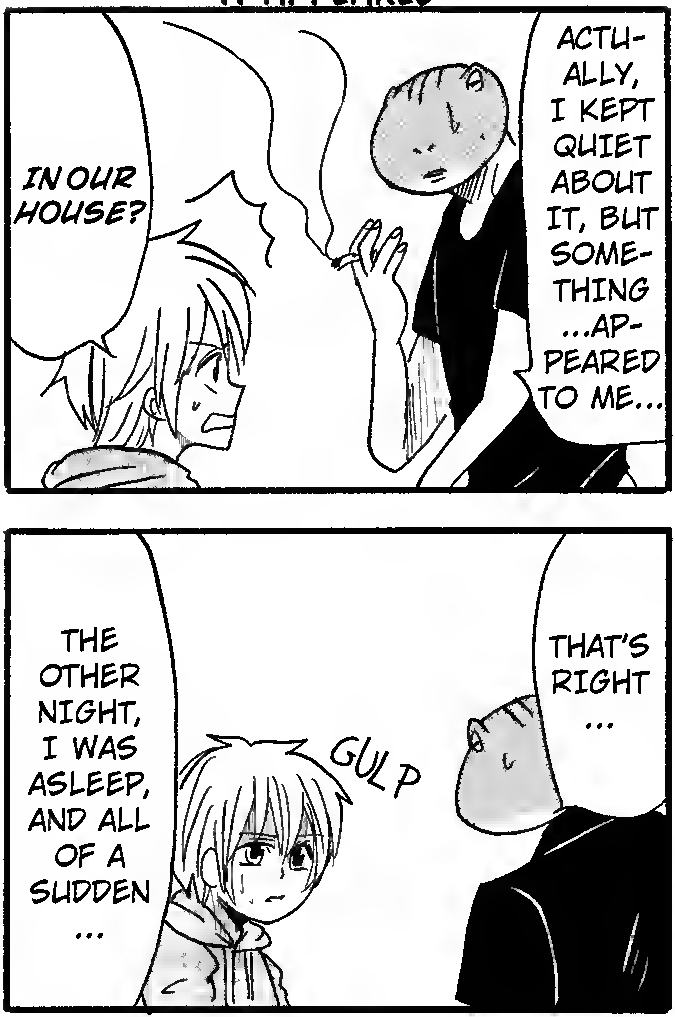
HORROR AND USAKI-SAN - PART 2

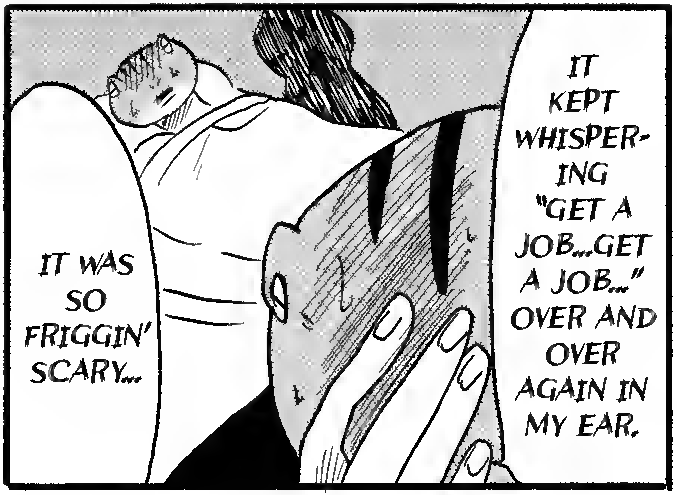
WHAP
JOLT

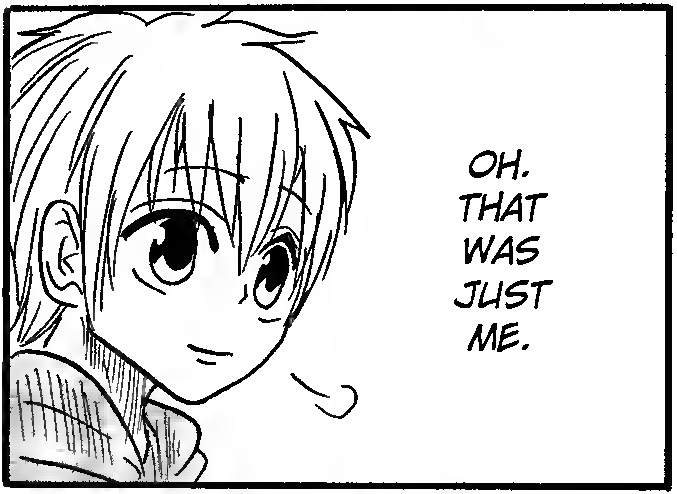
RECENTLY
WOO-HOO!
OH.
THEIR SPECIAL BROAD-CAST IS AL-READY OVER.
DON'T WOO-HOO ME... THIS...
YOU'RE STARTING TO GET ON MY NERVES...
...IS REALLY A LET DOWN. I WANTED TO SEE YA GET SCARED, YUKIO.
IT DOESN'T SCARE ME.

BE-
SIDES,
THAT
STUFF
IS ALL
FAKED.
WELL,
THEY
USE
CGI
AND
STUFF
...


...I
WISH
YOU
WERE
JUST
CGI
TOO,
OLD
MAN.
WHAT
IS
THAT
SUP-
POSED
TO
MEAN?


IT APPEARED
ACTU-
ALLY,
I KEPT
QUIET
ABOUT
IT, BUT
SOME-
THING
...AP-
PEARED
TO ME...
IN OUR
HOUSE?
THAT'S
RIGHT
...
GULP
THE
OTHER
NIGHT,
I WAS
ASLEEP,
AND ALL
OF A
SUDDEN
...





TO BE CONTINUED IN THE NEXT ISSUE.

Translation by Melissa Goldberg
Adaptation by Alexandra Swanson
YKS SERVICES LLC/SKY JAPAN, Inc

CHAPTER 28
THE OLD MAN AND SNACK

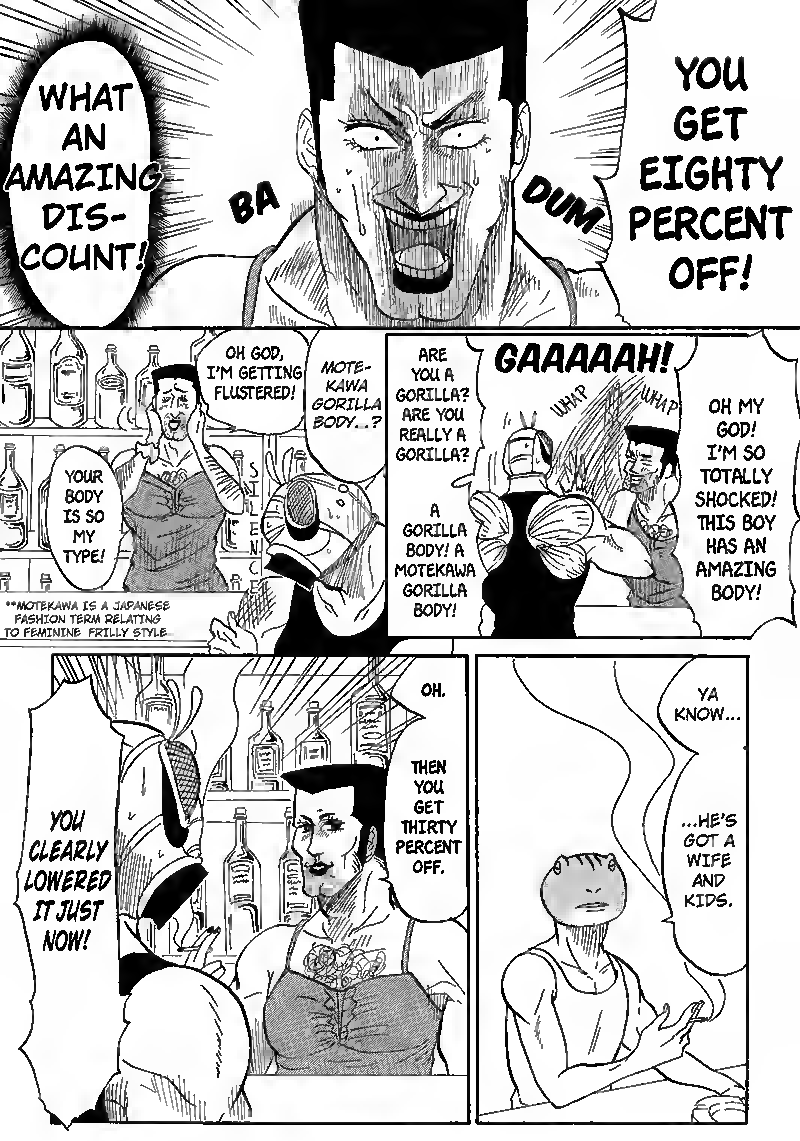
MangaBox

YOU'RE TAKING ME ALONG TO SNACK, YOUR REGULAR BAR!
ALL AGLOW
WHOA, IS THIS REALLY OKAY, FROG-SAN?
RATTLE RATTLE
HEY, ARE YA OPEN? WE'RE COMIN' IN.
I'M SO EXCITED! THIS IS MY FIRST TIME GOING TO SNACK!
WELL, IT'S A BAR I WAS PRETTY FAMI-LIAR WITH IN THE PAST.
WELCOME, WE~LCOME. ♡
OH M~Y, IT'S BEEN QUITE A WHILE, HASN'T IT?
I WANT TO GO HOME ALREADY.
OH, GOD, WHAT DO I DO?

WHOA
OH, STOP IT, YOU!
DON'T CALL ME UMANOSUKE YOU STOP IT RIGHT NOW!
YA SEEM WELL, UMANO-SUKE.
I WAS S~O LONELY! YOU HAVEN'T BEEN HERE IN SO LO~NG.
MY NAME IS HAE-JIMA
I'M FROG-SAN'S NEIGH-BOR AND GOOD FRIEND.
WAH!
SPOTTED
OH?
WHO'S THIS BOY WITH THE UNIQUE FACE?
GOT IT? ♡
SNAP
AND I DON'T MEAN ANYTHING DIRTY BY THAT.
OH, MY! SO YOU'RE HIS FRIEND!
THEN I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO GIVE YOU EXTRA SPECIAL TREAT-MENT!
THE MOST TROUBLED HE'S EVER BEEN IN HIS LIFE.

THIS STORY IS FICTIONAL, AND COMPLETELY UNRELATED TO ANY REAL PEOPLE, GROUPS, OR EVENTS

UMA-NO-SUKE.
CALL ME PONY!
CAN YA STILL DO YOU-KNOW-WHAT?
THIS?
YOU GOT IT! YOU GET FIFTY PERCENT OFF OF EVERY-THING!
CLENCH
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
THIS GUY... HAS A TANK TOP FETISH SO HE'LL GIVE YA HALF OFF IF YA WEAR ONE.
HALF OFF FOR WEAR-ING A TANK TOP?
WHAT A GREAT DEAL!
OH...
JTKP
SO THAT'S WHY YOU HAD ME WEAR A TANK TOP, FROG-SAN...

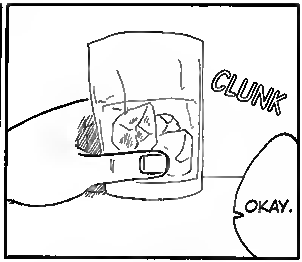

WHAT AN AMAZING DIS-COUNT!
BA
DUM
YOU GET EIGHTY PERCENT OFF!
OH GOD, I'M GETTING FLUSTERED!
MOTE-KAWA GORILLA BODY...?
YOUR BODY IS SO MY TYPE!
SILENCE
**MOTEKAWA IS A JAPANESE FASHION TERM RELATING TO FEMININE FRILLY STYLE.
ARE YOU A GORILLA? ARE YOU REALLY A GORILLA?
A GORILLA BODY! A MOTEKAWA GORILLA BODY!
GAAAAAH!
UHAP
UHAP
OH MY GOD! I'M SO TOTALLY SHOCKED! THIS BOY HAS AN AMAZING BODY!
OH.
THEN YOU GET THIRTY PERCENT OFF.
YOU CLEARLY LOWERED IT JUST NOW!
YA KNOW...
...HE'S GOT A WIFE AND KIDS.

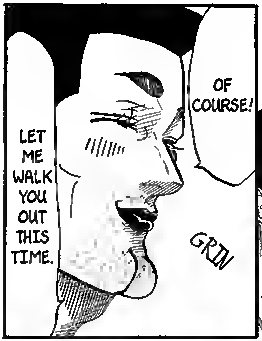
AWW, I'M SO DISAPPOINTED THAT YOU'RE MARRIED...
WELL, SORRY, I GUESS...
UM, UMANOSUKE—
CALL ME PONY.
PONY-SAN, WHAT IS YOUR RELATIONSHIP TO FROG-SAN?
OH MY, I CAN'T ANSWER THAT!
WE KNEW EACH OTHER IN HIGH SCHOOL
WELL... YEAH, I GUESS THAT'S ALL IT WAS.
HEH HEH HEH.
BLOW
I WAS QUITE THE WILD STALLION BACK THEN...
BACK THEN, THERE WAS NO DELINQUENT WHO DIDN'T KNOW HIM...
RESPECTFULLY CALLED "THE GREEN TYRANT", ANY GANG MEMBER THAT TOOK HIM ON...
HE WOULDN'T JOIN ANY ONE GANG, AND HE HELD AN UNDEFEATED RECORD.
...WAS NEVER LEFT STANDING AFTERWARD.
PONY WAS TOOK HIM ON TOO...
BUT...

HUH? WEREN'T YA WALKIN' AROUND NICHOME IN DRAG YESTERDAY?
WHAT WERE YA DOIN' IN THAT?
THE MATCH WAS OVER IN AN INSTANT...
I-IF YOU TELL ANYONE ABOUT THAT, I'LL NEVER FORGIVE YOU!
WHAT WOULD I TELL THEM?
**NICHOME IS TOKYO'S GAY DISTRICT.
YER JUST DRESSING HOW YA LIKE.
IT AIN'T NOTHIN' TO BE ASHAMED OF. YA CAN LIVE ANY WAY YA WANT.
LIVE ANY WAY I WANT...?
AND THUS UMANOSUKE WAS REBORN.
SO THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED...
SHUFF
...AND BECAME PONY. I WAS ABLE TO BE TRUE TO MYSELF.
OH, RIGHT, I DID DO THAT, DIDN'T I...?
DUFF OFF
DUFF OFF
WHAT?!

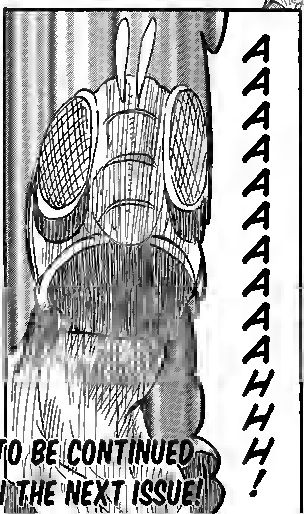
YOU'RE AMAZING, FROG-SAN YOU GET SO MANY PEOPLE TO LIKE YOU, EVEN THOUGH
YOU'RE UNEM-PLOY-ED.
DON'T CALL ME UNEM-PLOY-ED.
WHILE I'M.
HA HA HA HA
...A PATHETIC MAN WHO CAN'T EVEN GET ALONG WITH HIS OWN DAUGHTER.
PONY SLAP!
SMACK
BWAH!
WH—
WHAT ARE YOU—
UGLY, SO UGLY!
WHO CARES HOW BURLY YOU ARE IF YOU CAN'T EVEN WATCH OVER YOUR OWN CHILDREN!
THE WAY YOU THINK IS UGLY! BE MORE FATHER-LY!
OH, THAT'S RIGHT, YER SON IS ALMOST ELEVEN, RIGHT, UMANO-SUKE?
YEP.
YOU HAVE A KID, PONY-SAN?!

OH, SURE.
WE BETTER BE GETTIN' HOME, HAEJIMA.
...UM, PONY-SAN...


CLUNK
OKAY.


OF COURSE!
LET ME WALK YOU OUT THIS TIME.
GRIN

...CAN I...
...COME BACK SOMETIME?


AAAAAAAAAAHH!
TO BE CONTINUED IN THE NEXT ISSUE!

PLEASE COME BY AGAIN.
CLACK

Translation by Melissa Goldberg
Adaptation by Alexandra Swanson
YKS SERVICES LLC/SKY JAPAN, Inc

MangaBox

HUH?

YOU WANT TO GO SHOPPING WITH ME?

CHAPTER 29
MOM'S BIRTHDAY

YEAH... ACTUALLY, IT'S MY MOM'S BIRTH-DAY.

AND I WANT TO THROW HER A SURPRISE PARTY.

I'D LIKE YOU TO GO TO THE STORE WITH ME, BUT...

BUT...

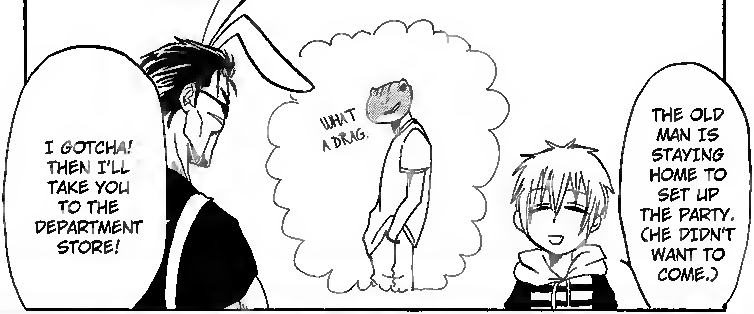
...BOC-CHAN, SENPAI WOULD BE A BETTER PERSON TO ASK FOR THAT.

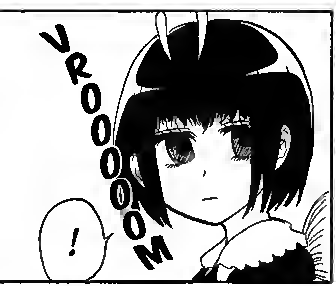
USAKI'S BENTO

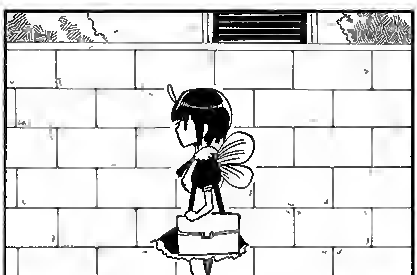
SO I WANT TO GO BUY HER A PRE-SENT.

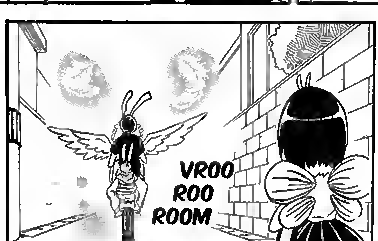
...I DON'T GET IT. WHAT DOES THE OLD MAN HAVE TO DO WITH ANYTHING?

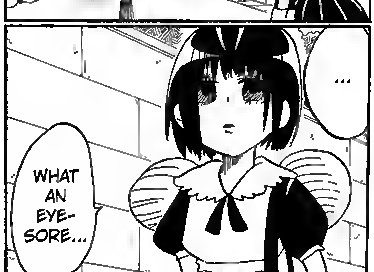
FROM THE START, HE NEVER ENTERED MY MIND AS A POSSIBLE CHOICE.


I GOTCHA! THEN I'LL TAKE YOU TO THE DEPARTMENT STORE!
WHAT A DRAG.
THE OLD MAN IS STAYING HOME TO SET UP THE PARTY. (HE DIDN'T WANT TO COME.)

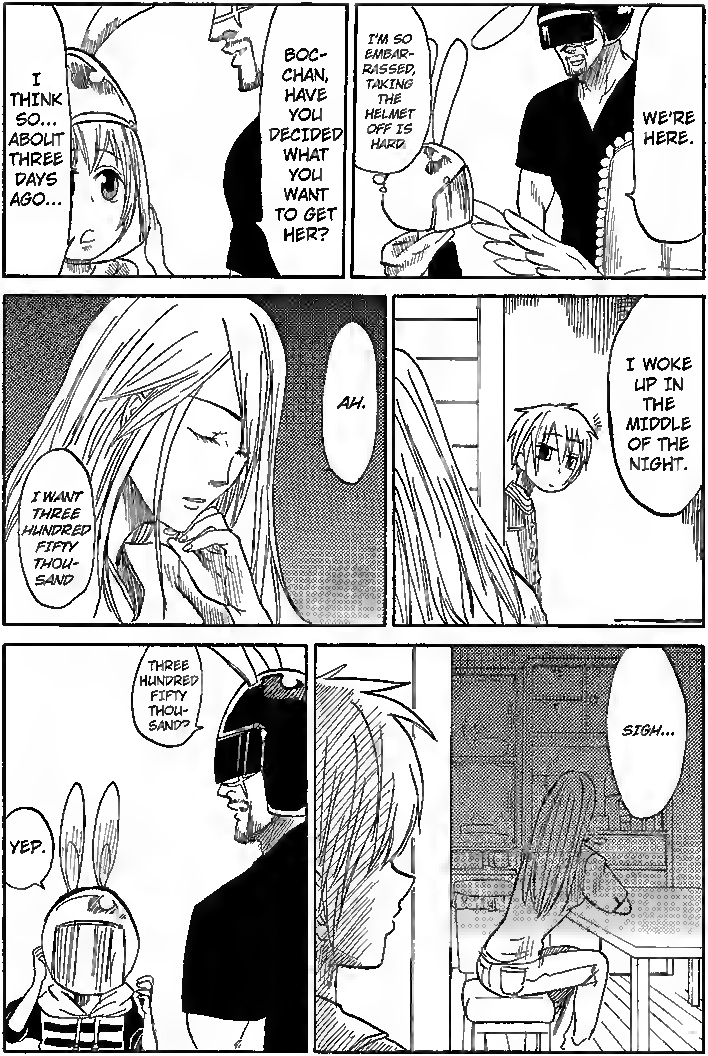








THIS STORY IS FICTIONAL, AND COMPLETELY UNRELATED TO ANY REAL PEOPLE, GROUPS, OR EVENTS


I THINK SO... ABOUT THREE DAYS AGO...
BOC-CHAN, HAVE YOU DECIDED WHAT YOU WANT TO GET HER?
I'M SO EMBAR-RASSED, TAKING THE HELMET OFF IS HARD.
WE'RE HERE.
I WANT THREE HUNDRED FIFTY THOU-SAND
AH.
I WOKE UP IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT.
THREE HUNDRED FIFTY THOU-SAND?
YEP.
SIGH...

YEAH, BUT WHAT SHOULD I GET HER...?
CLOTHING MAYBE?
BOCCHAN, YOU'RE MAKING ME TEAR UP
MENSWEAR
FAIR
THREE HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND ISN'T POSSIBLE, IS IT? I'M USING MY NEW YEAR'S MONEY TO BUY HER GIFT...
I DON'T KNOW WHAT SIZE SHE IS...
OH
I'VE GOT IT! I'LL GET HER AN APRON
MY MOM ALWAYS USES THE SAME OLD APRON SO I'LL GET HER A NEW ONE
SHE'LL LOVE IT!
ONE WITH A REALLY PRETTY PATTERN, MAYBE.
A PRETTY PATTERN IS A GOOD IDEA.
I'M PROBABLY THINKING OF SOMETHING DIFFERENT FROM WHAT YOU'RE IMAGINING.

HELLO THERE
ARE YOU BUYING A GIFT?
OH, BOC-CHAN, OVER HERE—
IT'S OKAY. I WANT TO PICK IT OUT MYSELF.
WHICH ONE SHOULD I GET?
OUR MOST POPULAR SELLER IS THIS PATTERN OVER HERE.
OHH.
OH, BUT IF YOU WANT A PARENT AND CHILD MATCHING SET...
THIS BUNNY RABBIT ONE IS VERY POPULAR ...
UM...
DO YOU HAVE THAT FOR MEN IN A MEDIUM?
Y--
YOUR EARS... EARS!

YOU WERE ABLE TO FIND A GOOD APRON, YUKIO-BOCCHAN!
CREAK
YEAH!
YOU EVEN BOUGHT ONE FOR YOURSELF, YOU SNEAK.
OH.
THAT'S RIGHT...
I WONDER IF THE OLD MAN SET UP FOR THE PARTY LIKE HE WAS SUPPOSED TO.
IT'LL BE FINE.
SENPAI MAY LOOK A CERTAIN WAY, BUT...
...HE'LL COME THROUGH FOR YOU WHEN YOU NEED HIM...
I—
I'LL DO IT!
I'LL DO IT IN HIS STEAD!
I RAN OUT TO BUY CIGS. THE REST IS UP TO YOU.

...BIRTHDAY.
HAPPY...
HUH? WHAT'S GOING ON?
SORRY FOR DROPPING BY SO SUDDENLY
HOW DID YOU TWO KNOW?
FROG-SAN TOLD ME ABOUT IT WHEN I SAW HIM IN FRONT OF THE CIGARETTE SHOP.
OH, NOW I GET IT.
THANK YOU, FUMIKA-CHAN.
NO, IT'S ONLY NATU-RAL
CONSIDER-ING THE FACT THAT YOU'LL PROBABLY BECOME MY STEP-MOM SOMEDAY, THIS IS THE LEAST I CAN DO.
FUMIKA?!

I'M GLAD I WAS ABLE TO GET THIS APRON, TOO...
THE QUEEN SEEMED REALLY HAPPY YESTER-DAY.
USA
S—
SEN-PAI?
.YO
OANO
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
CAN'T YOU TELL ...?
SHE WON'T LET ME IN.
THE OLD MAN WAS ALLOWED BACK IN THE HOUSE AFTER TWO HOURS.

TO BE CONTINUED IN THE NEXT ISSUE.

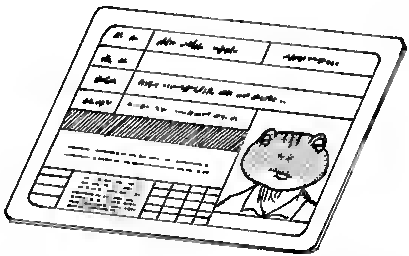
Translation by Melissa Goldberg
Adaptation by Alexandra Swanson
YKS SERVICES LLC/SKY JAPAN, Inc.

MangaBox

OLD MAN FROG

ACTUALLY, HE CAN DRIVE ON A TRACK.

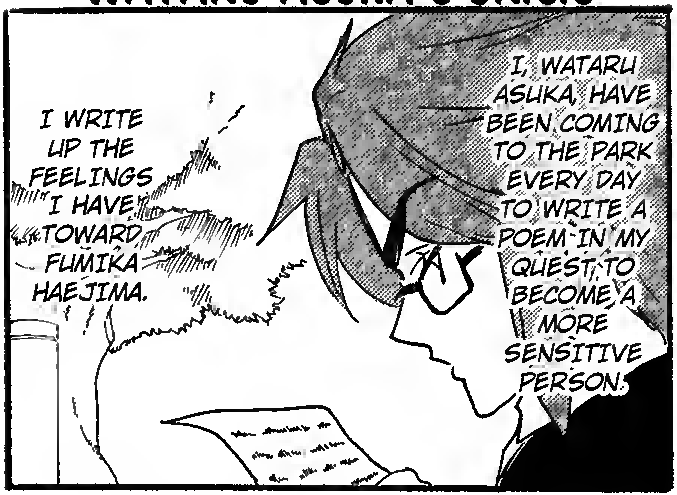
THERE'S AN OLD MAN FROG IN MY HOUSE.

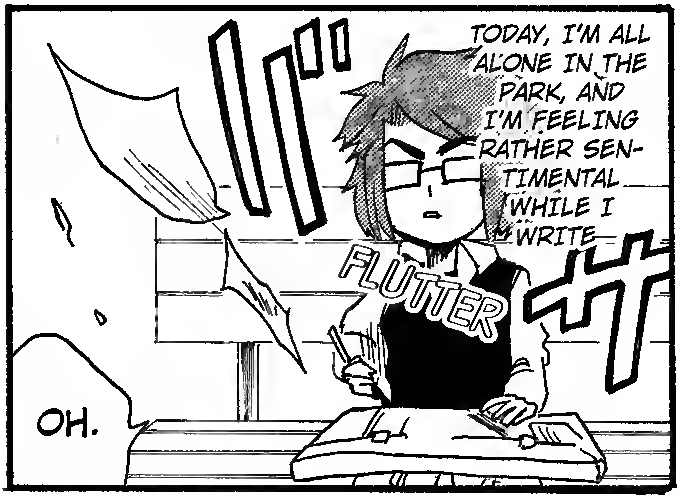


CHAPTER 30
WATARU THE POET

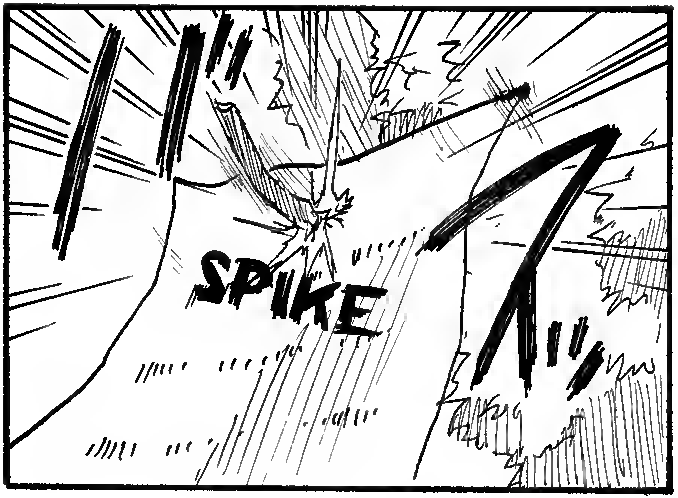
ZENYU SHIMABUKURO

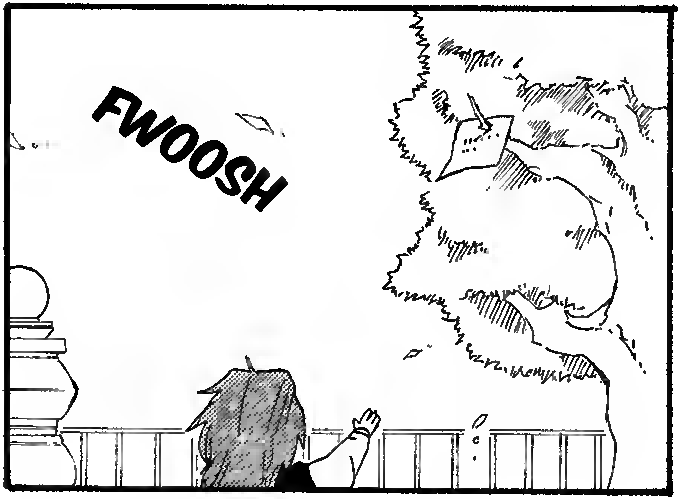
WATARU ASUKA'S CRISIS


I, WATARU ASUKA, HAVE BEEN COMING TO THE PARK EVERY DAY TO WRITE A POEM IN MY QUEST TO BECOME A MORE SENSITIVE PERSON.
I WRITE UP THE FEELINGS I HAVE TOWARD FUMIKA HAEJIMA.

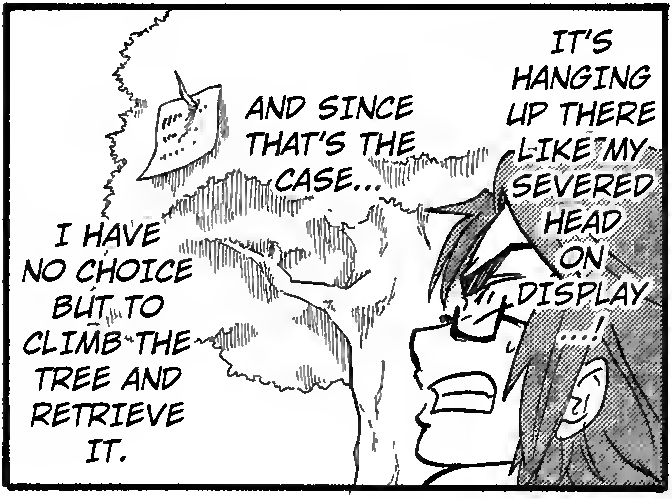


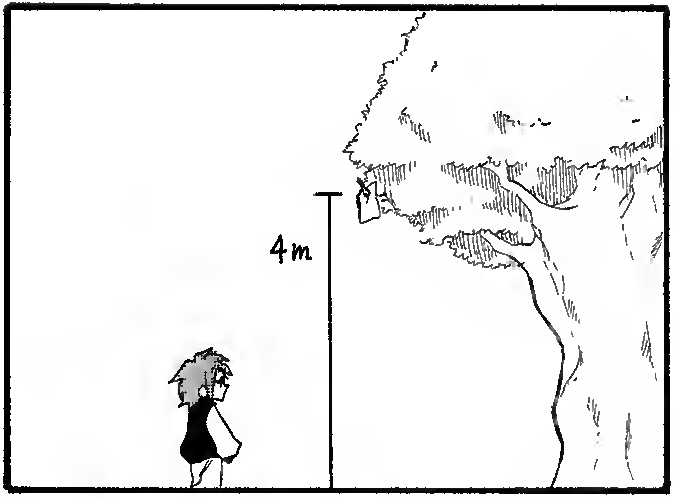
THIS STORY IS FICTIONAL, AND COMPLETELY UNRELATED TO ANY REAL PEOPLE, GROUPS, OR EVENTS

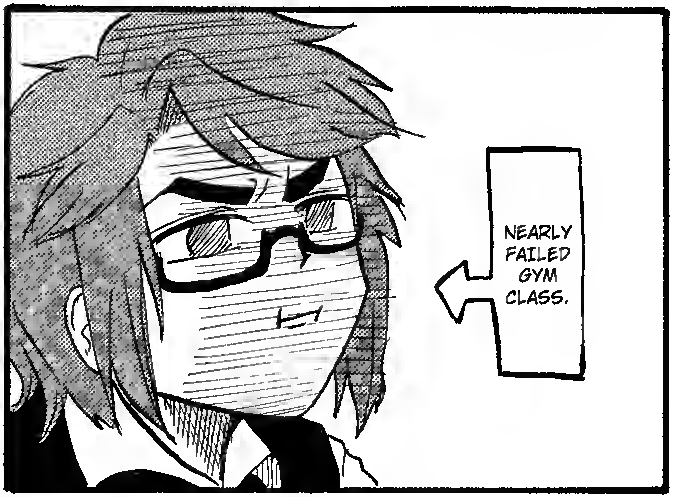

SPIKE


FWOOSH

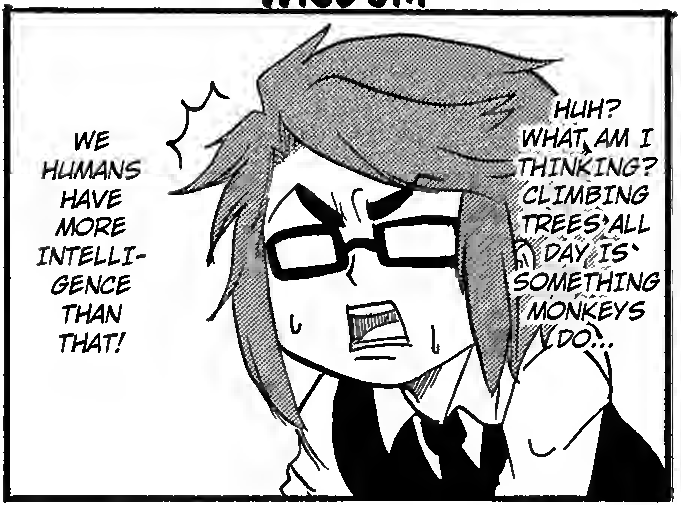
THE CRISIS CONTINUES

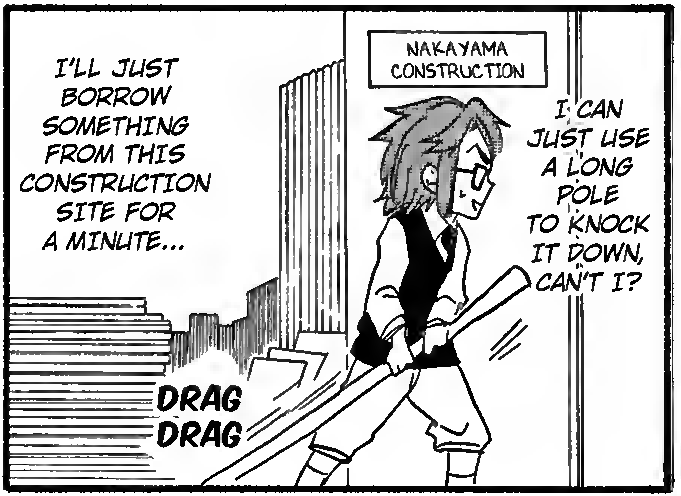

I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO CLIMB THE TREE AND RETRIEVE IT.
AND SINCE THAT'S THE CASE...
IT'S HANGING UP THERE LIKE MY SEVERED HEAD ON DISPLAY
....!

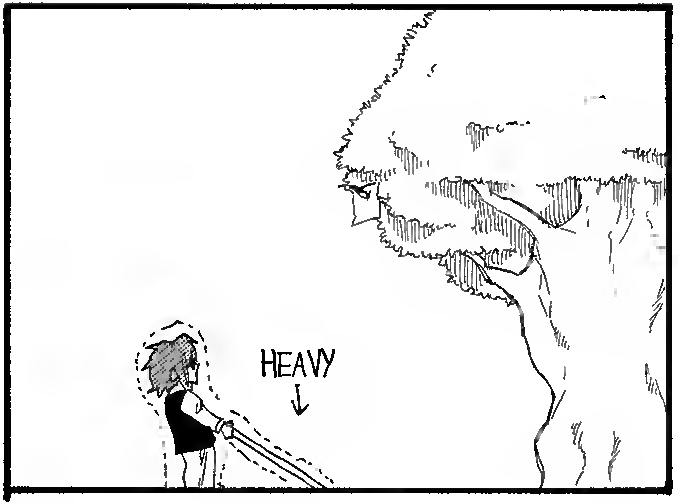

4m

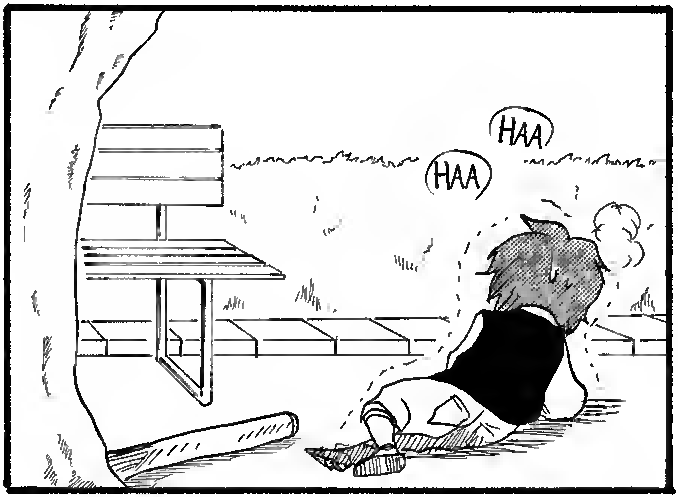

NEARLY FAILED GYM CLASS.

WISDOM


WE HUMANS HAVE MORE INTELLI-GENCE THAN THAT!
HUH? WHAT AM I THINKING? CLIMBING TREES ALL DAY IS SOMETHING MONKEYS DO...

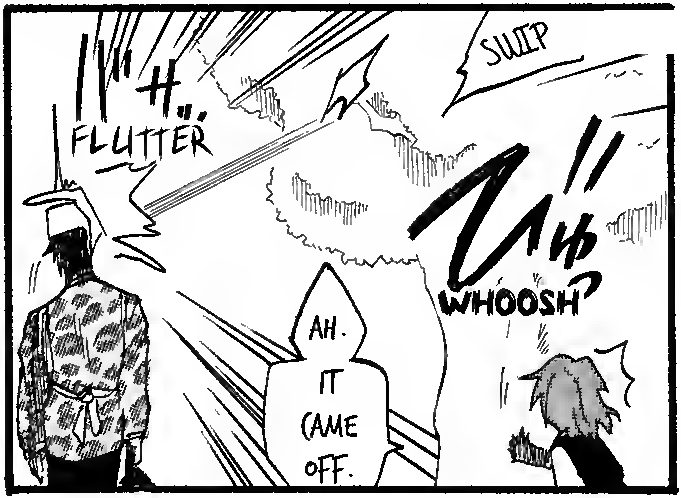

I'LL JUST BORROW SOMETHING FROM THIS CONSTRUCTION SITE FOR A MINUTE...
NAKAYAMA CONSTRUCTION
I CAN JUST USE A LONG POLE TO KNOCK IT DOWN, CAN'T I?
DRAG
DRAG


HEAVY


HAA
HAA

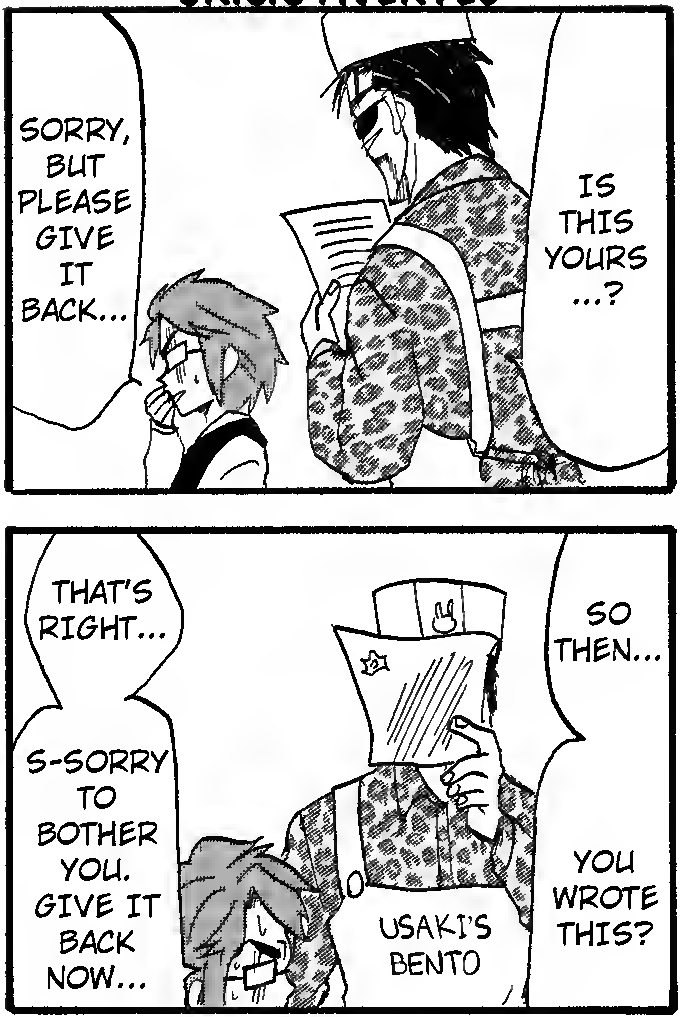
THE WIND'S CRUEL JOKE

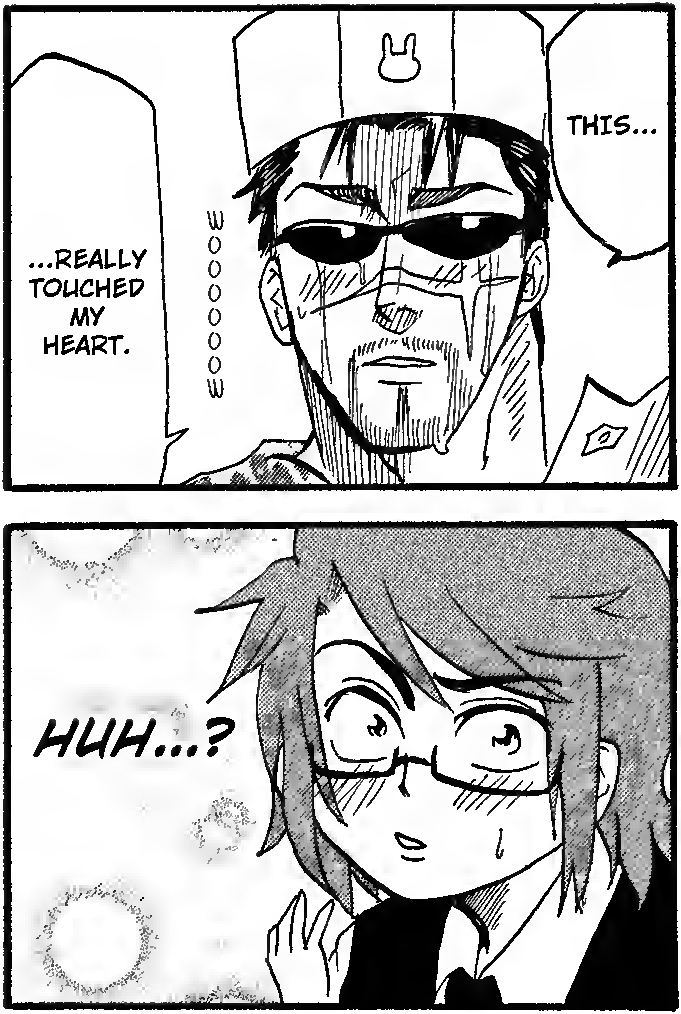
I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO RELY ON NATURE TO ERODE THE PAPER AWAY... NO, NO, NO, NO NO.
UGH... IN THIS CASE, I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO THROW ROCKS AND... NO, A ROCK WON'T DISLODGE PAPER...



HUH?
WHAT'S THIS?
NOOOOOOOO
OOOOOOOO!

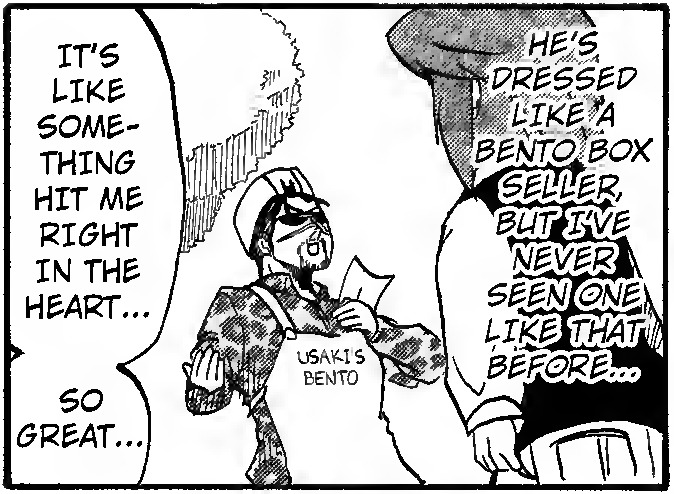
CRISIS AVERTED

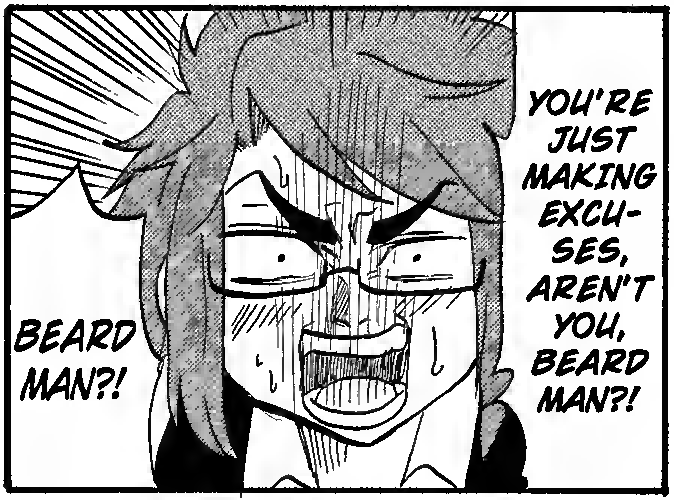



THIS...
WOOOOOOO
...REALLY TOUCHED MY HEART.
HUH...?

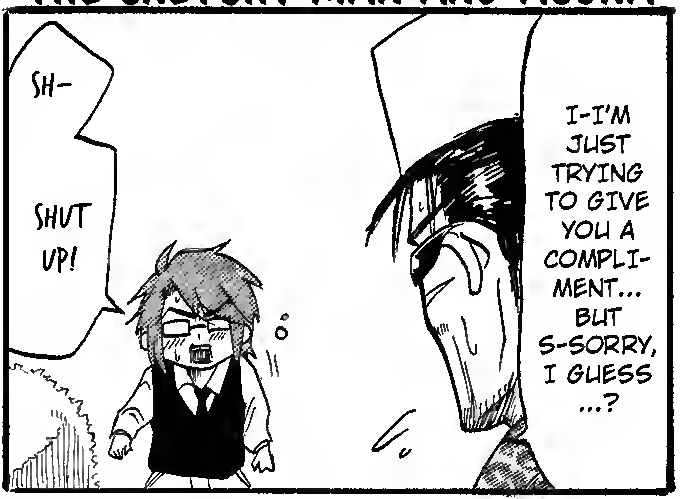
A MAN'S TEARS

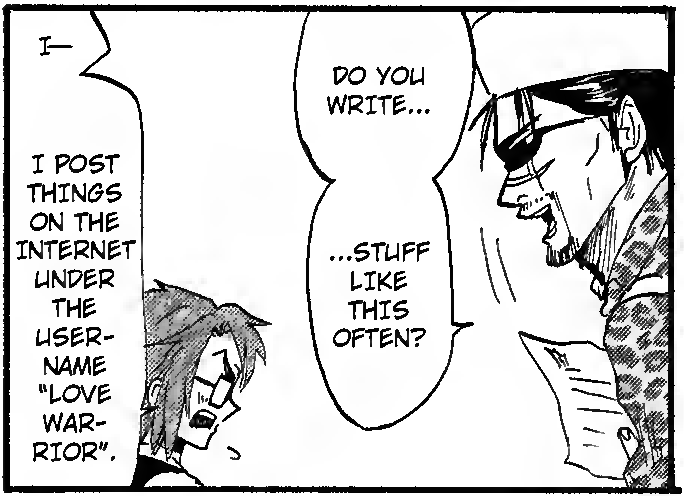
NO, HOLD ON A MINUTE HERE...
NO, REALLY, THIS IS AMAZING. TEARS JUST SPRANG INTO MY EYES...
MAYBE... HE'S USING HIS SMOOTH-TALKING TO SET ME UP FOR SOME MEAN TRICK...?!
WHAT'S UP WITH THIS GUY...? ISN'T HE PRAISING ME A LITTLE TOO MUCH...? IT'S A TAD SUSPICIOUS.

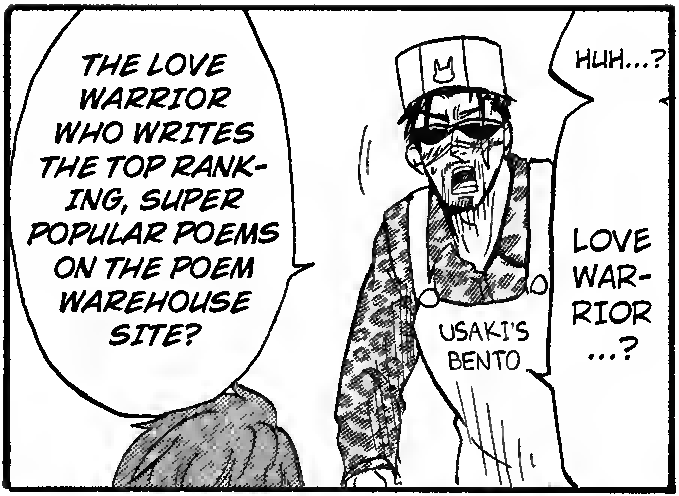

IT'S LIKE SOME-THING HIT ME RIGHT IN THE HEART...
SO GREAT...
USAKI'S BENTO
HE'S DRESSED LIKE A BENTO BOX SELLER, BUT I'VE NEVER SEEN ONE LIKE THAT BEFORE...

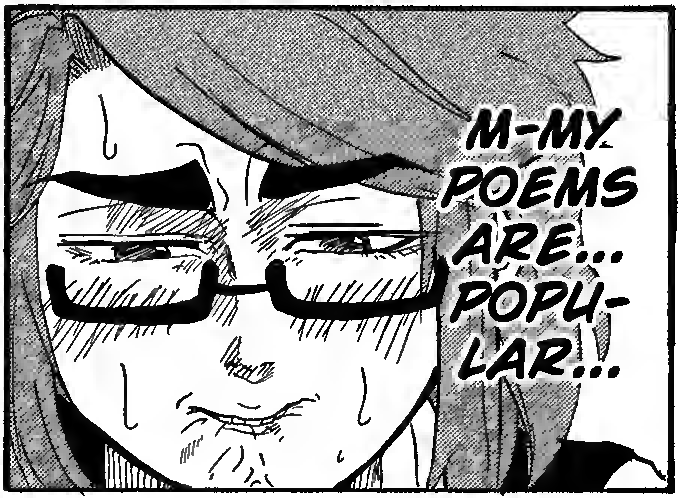

BEARD MAN?!
YOU'RE JUST MAKING EXCU-SES, AREN'T YOU, BEARD MAN?!

THE SKETCHY MAN AND ASUKA

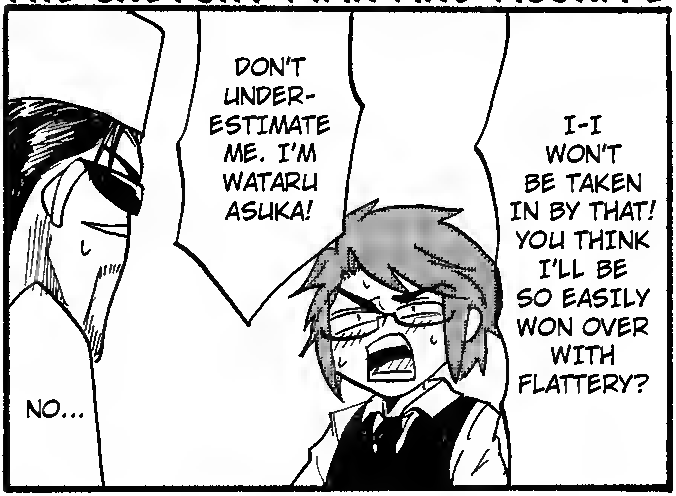




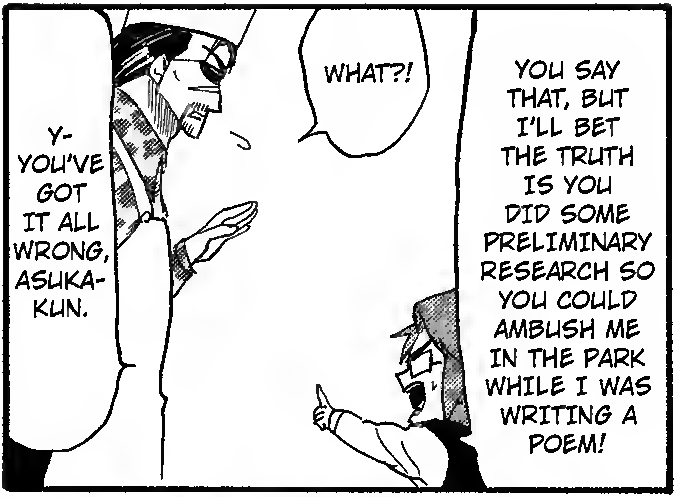

THE LOVE WARRIOR WHO WRITES THE TOP RANKING, SUPER POPULAR POEMS ON THE POEM WAREHOUSE SITE?
HUH...?
LOVE WARRIOR ...?
USAKI'S BENTO


M-MY POEMS ARE... POPULAR!!

THE SKETCHY MAN AND ASUKA 2

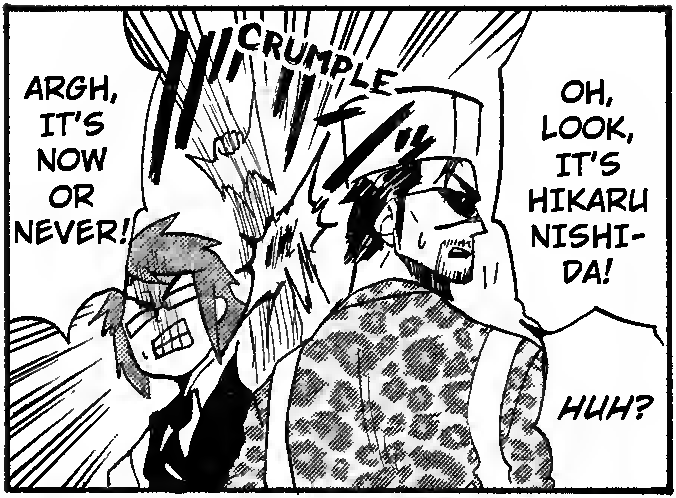


I REALLY DID BECOME A FAN OF LOVE WAR-RIOR'S ON THE POEM WARE-HOUSE...
SO IF IT'S REALLY TRUE THAT HE'S A YOUNG BOY, I JUST THINK THAT'S PRETTY AMAZ-ING.

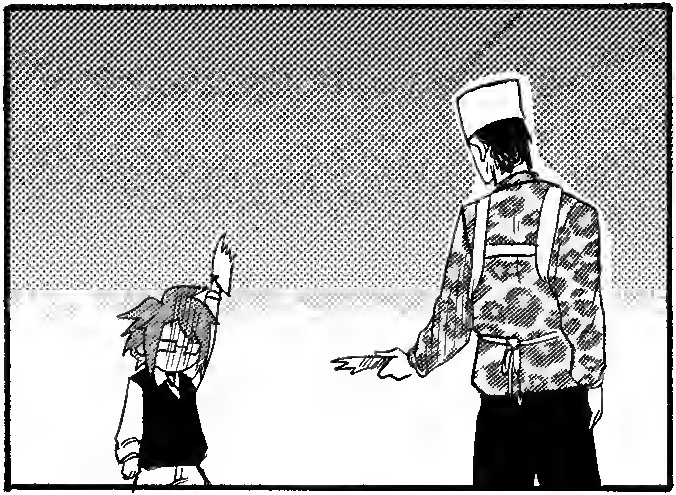

Y-YOU'VE GOT IT ALL WRONG, ASUKA-KUN.
WHAT?!
YOU SAY THAT, BUT I'LL BET THE TRUTH IS YOU DID SOME PRELIMINARY RESEARCH SO YOU COULD AMBUSH ME IN THE PARK WHILE I WAS WRITING A POEM!

SHAKE SHAKE
YOU SAID IT JUST NOW!
YOU EVEN FOUND OUT MY REAL NAME...!

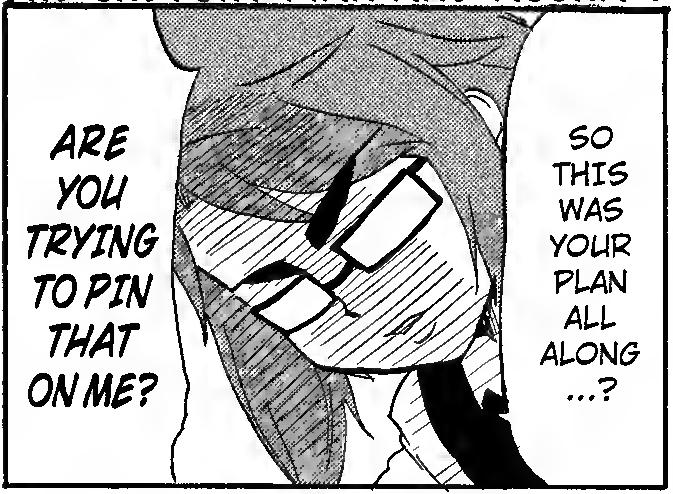
I GUESS I SHOULD HURRY UP AND GET MY POEM BACK AT LEAST.
I'M BEING DRIVEN INTO A CORNER! WHAT SHOULD I DO NOW...?!
HE'S STILL REALLY MOVED BY THE POEM.
IN THIS CASE, I'LL WAIT UNTIL HE LETS HIS GUARD DOWN FOR A MOMENT AND THEN GRAB THE HOSTAGE (MY POEM) BACK FROM HIM!
I HAVE NO OTHER OPTION BUT TO ESCAPE FROM THIS SITUATION.
AKI'S ENTO

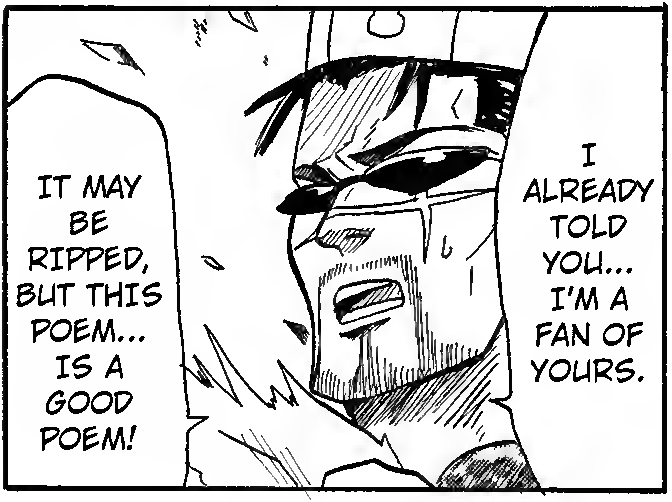


***HIKARU NISHIDA IS JAPANESE POP STAR.

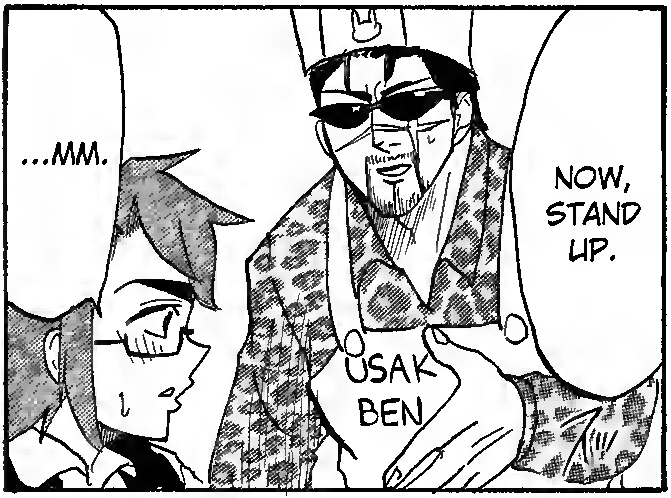


THE SKETCHY MAN AND ASUKA 3

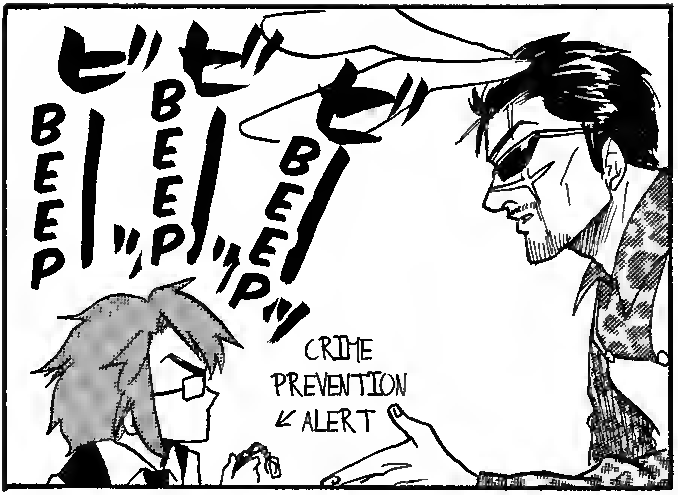


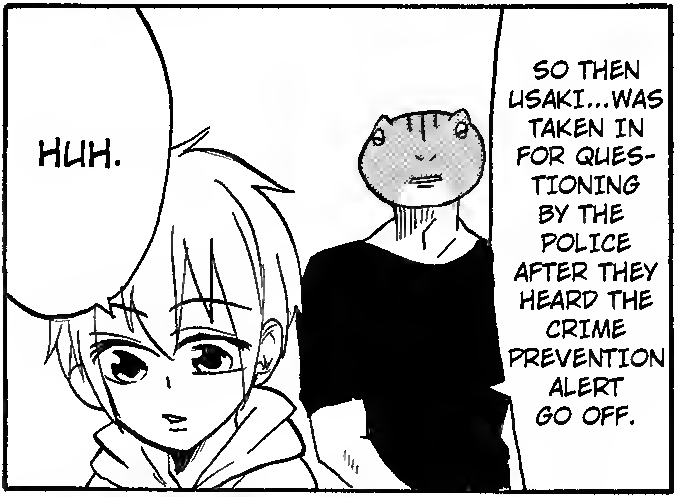


SO DON'T BE SO DEPRES-SED... LOVE WAR-RIOR!
GOT IT?!


NOW, STAND UP.
USAK BEN
...MM.

OH.
FLUTTER





TO BE CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE!